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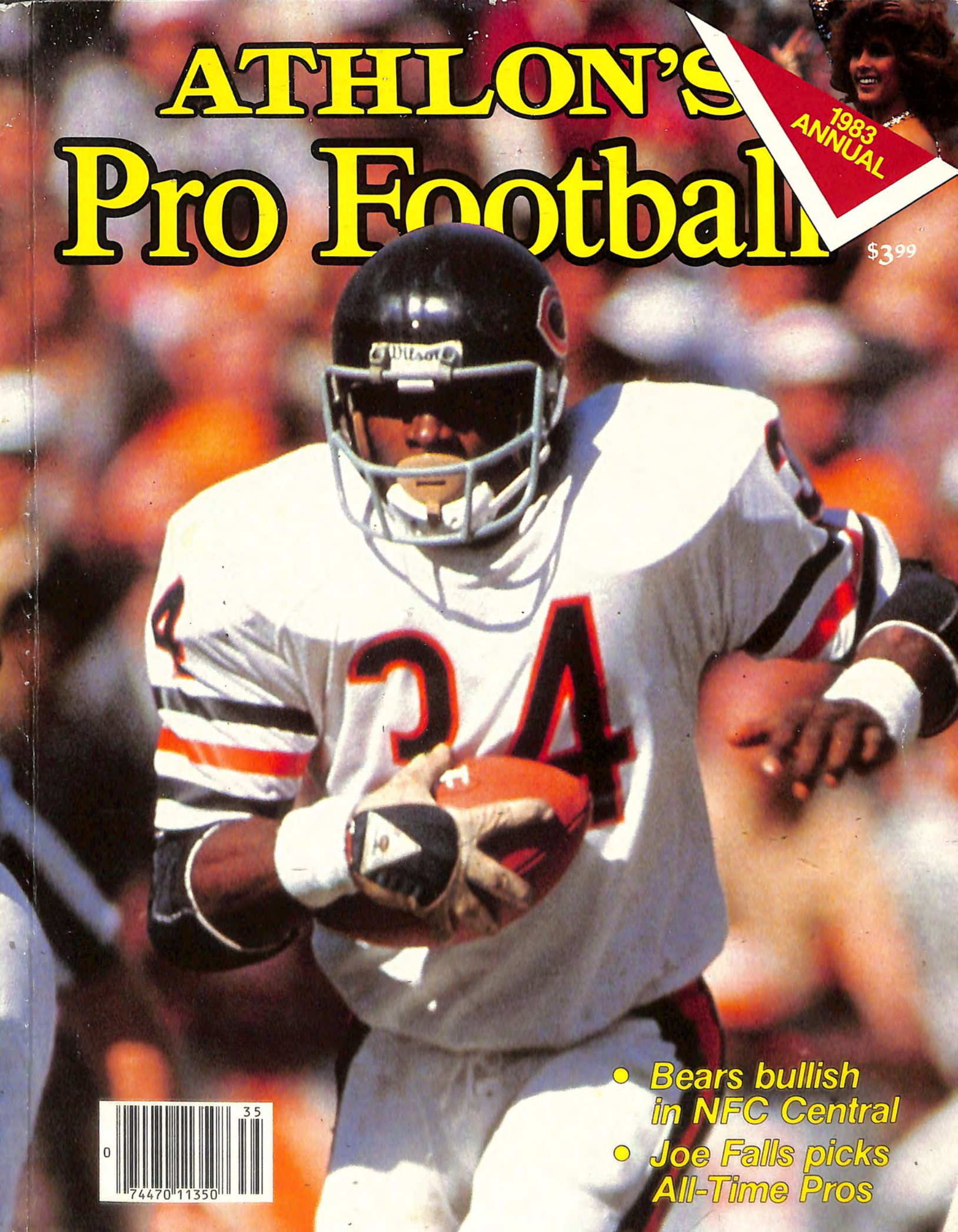

- Bears bullish in NFC Central
- Joe Falls picks All-Time Pros

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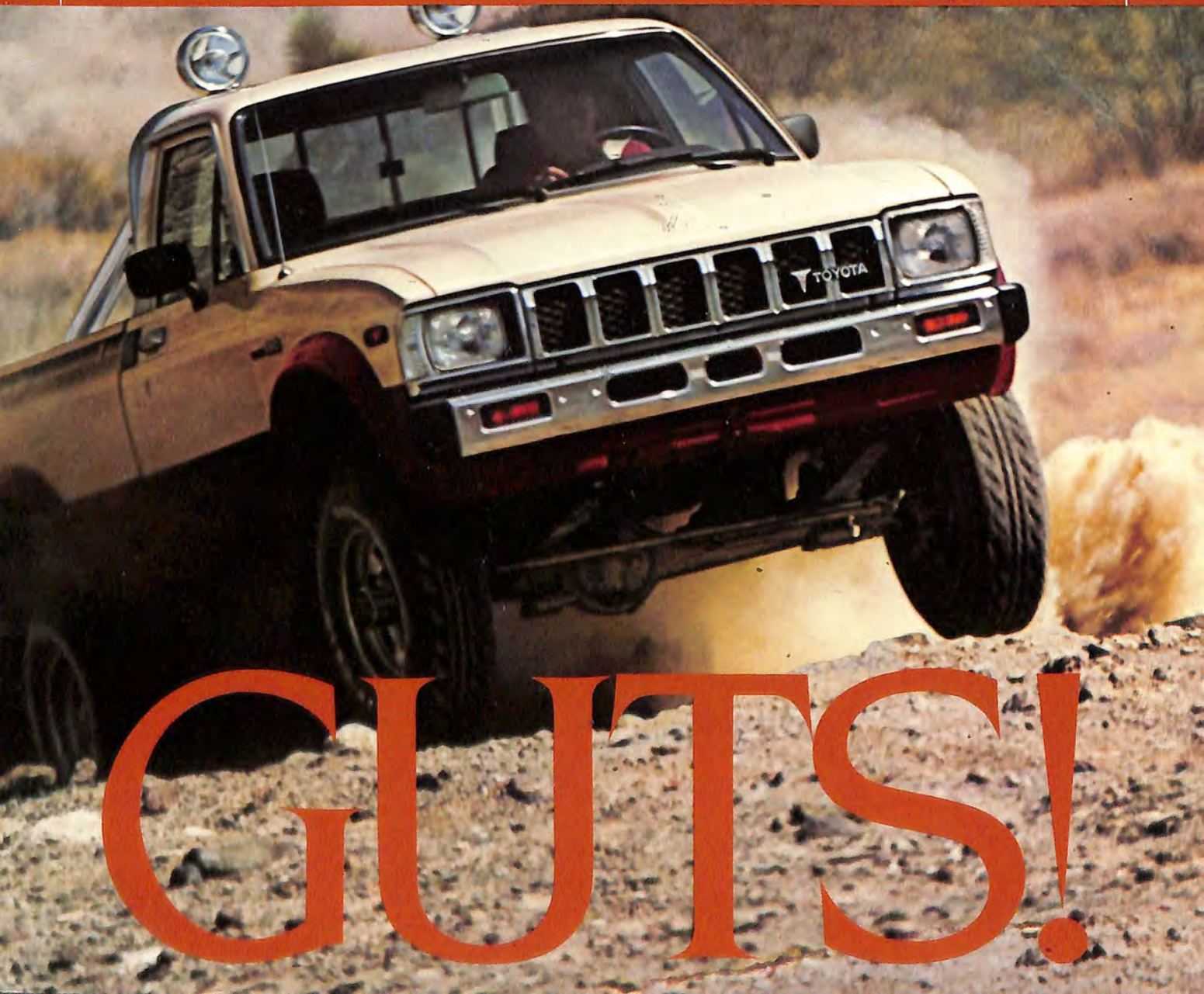

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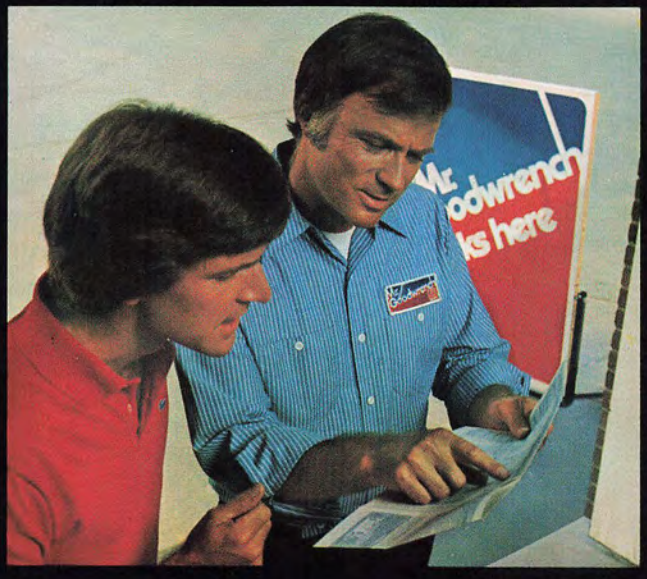

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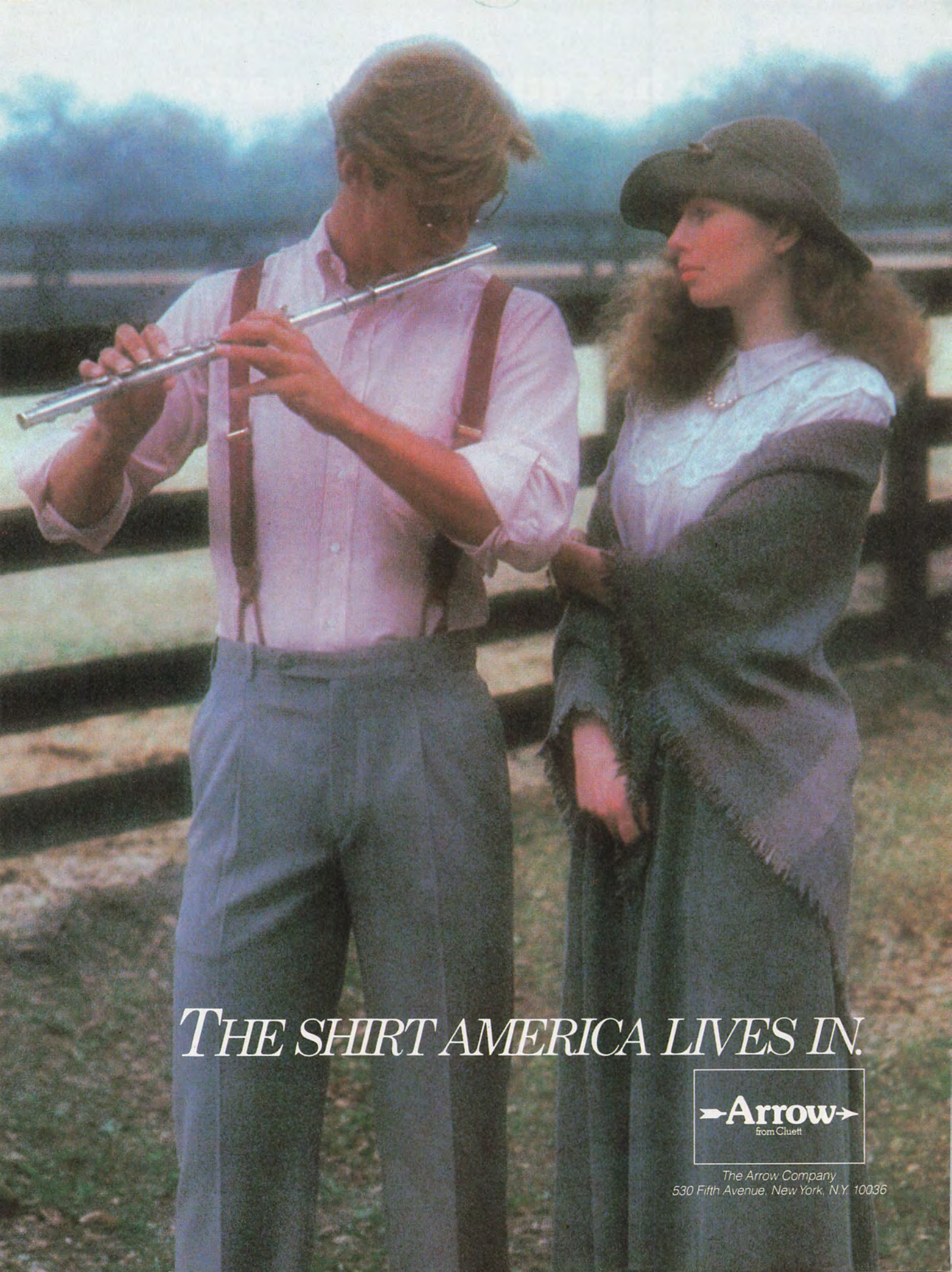
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WASHINGTON

The occasion was a Bible-study meeting at a home for disadvantaged teenagers in one of the less attractive areas of Washington. An enthusiastic speaker, who looked considerably younger than his 42 years, was addressing the predominately black group.

"The most exciting days of my life," he said, "have been, number one, the day I became a Christian; two, the day I got married; and, three, when my kids were born." As he continued, talking of faith and determination, love and hard work, one youngster turned to a counselor standing nearby. "That guy," he whispered, "looks familiar. You know who he is?"

The counselor, more than a little amused, advised the youth that he was listening to Joe Gibbs, head coach of the Washington Redskins. Coach of the Super Bowl champion Washington Redskins. The NFL Coach of the Year.

"I'm just going to keep on working, trying to do the best I can. I love it, and I'm going to work just as hard at it next year as I did the year before. And the year before that."

Suffice it to say that Gibbs, despite his recent success, has not yet grabbed the attention of a sports-crazed nation. He's not yet a household word. Johnny Carson hasn't sought his company. No autobiography has been demanded by publishers.

That he has not yet reached a station in life where he is immediately recognized as one of the living geniuses of his profession ("I think 'genius' is the most over-used word in our language," he says) seems to matter little to Gibbs. Nor the fact that he hasn't been properly credited for the two-year job he's done with the Redskins (at the Super Bowl trophy presentation, NFL Commissioner Pete Rozelle complimented him on "having the best record in the NFC" when, actually, he had compiled the best in the entire league) and isn't placed in the company of the Tom Landrys and Don Shulas when coaching records are mentioned.

Joe Jackson Gibbs, son of a North Carolina sheriff, a man who spent 15 years as a much-traveled assistant before getting his first head-coaching opportunity, is quite satisfied with things as they are.

After all, how many coaches do you know who can list the highlights of their lives and not so much as mention the fact that their teams won the first Super Bowl title the nation's capital has ever celebrated? Or make at least some mention of Coach of the Year honors that poured into their trophy cases soon after?

"Winning the championship and being selected as the Coach of the Year were big thrills," Gibbs admits when pressed. "Anybody in his right mind enjoys the feeling of success. But my goal is to be successful eight or nine years down the road. Then I'd know I'd accomplished something. It seems there are people these days who are Coach of the Year one season and out of work the next. I don't want that to happen. I'm just going to keep on working, trying to do the best I can. I love it, and I'm going to work just as hard at it next year as I did the year before. And the year before that."

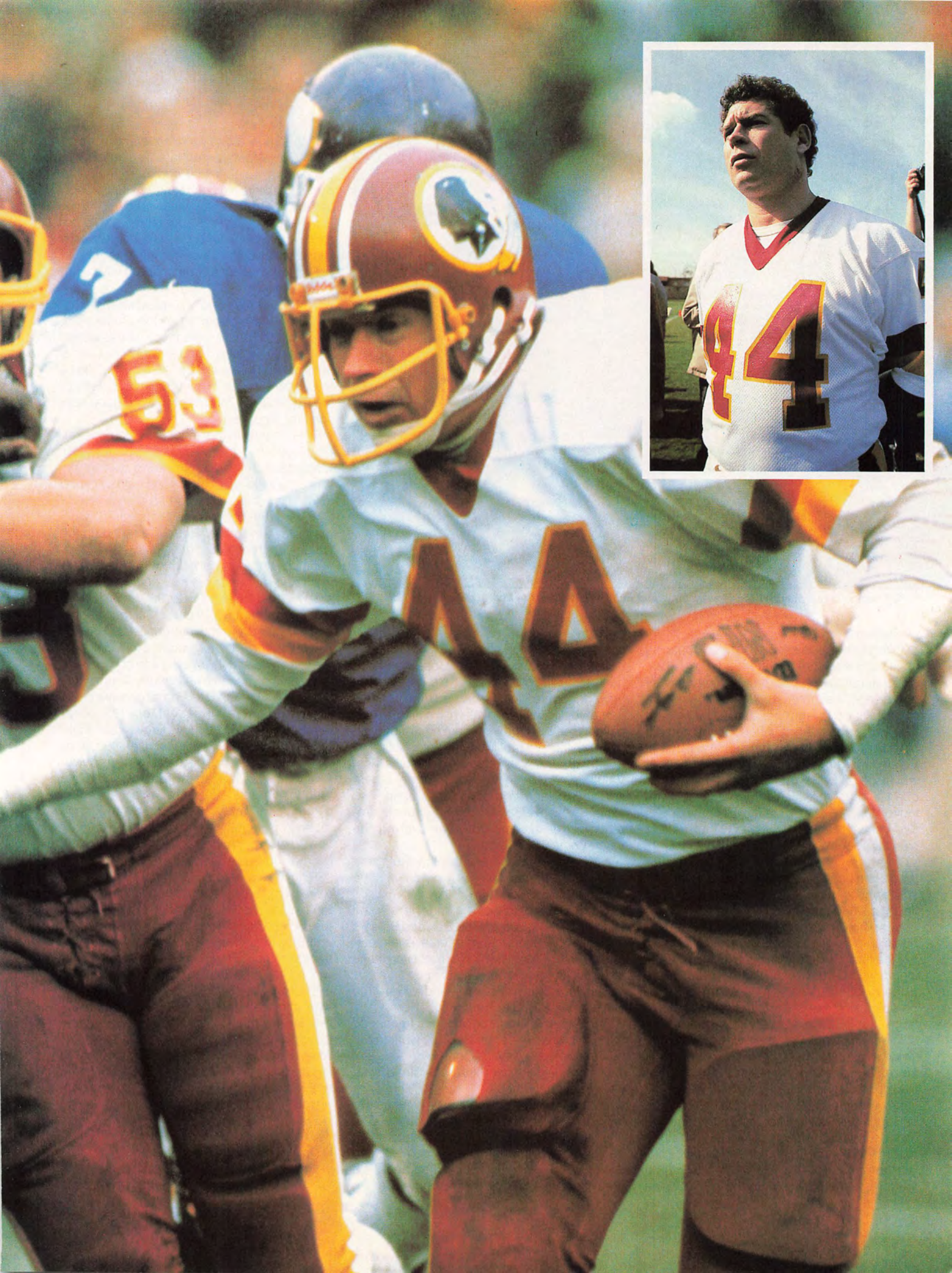
Indeed, the turnaround that the former college tight end has brought to the Washington franchise in the past two years is evidence that he's paid careful attention to his task.

Hired to rebuild the Redskins prior to the 1981 season, Gibbs first looked like a man who was going to need every minute of the three-year contract he'd signed to get things in order.

Having come to Washington after serving as offensive coordinator for San Diego's Don Coryell, Gibbs set about to install the wide-open attack he'd enjoyed good fortune with on the West Coast. The grind-it-out Redskins, also-rans to the Dallas Cowboys and Philadelphia Eagles in the NFC East, would erase that stigma with razzle-dazzle. Members of the Washington media began referring to his system as Air Coryell East. But it didn't fly. There were no Dan Fouts or John Jeffersons or James Loftons in Redskin Park.

(continued)

John Riggins was a devastating runner in the playoffs with 610 yards, compared with 553 in nine regular-season games.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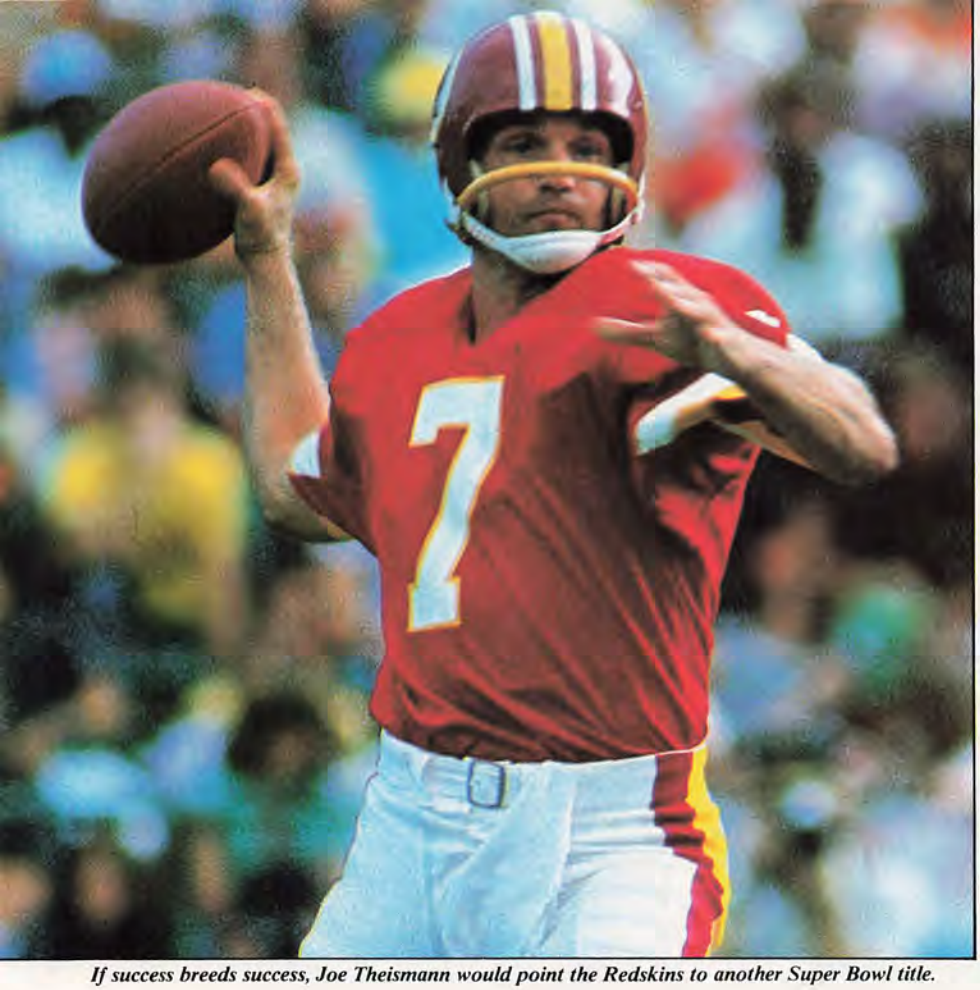


If success breeds success, Joe Theismann would point the Redskins to another Super Bowl title.

(Washington continued)

Five games deep into his first head coaching job, Gibbs was still looking for a win.

To accomplish it, a new approach was necessary. The material on hand begged for a more balanced air-ground attack, and he went to it, becoming the first NFL coach to commit himself to a single-back offense. He also made it clear to his squad that every man in uniform would be expected to contribute on either offense or defense. At times, substitutions looked like a shuttle relay. But it worked. Everyone became involved in Gibbs' master plan for success.

With a new approach and morale higher than it had been in years, the Redskins hit their stride and won eight of their last 11 games to finish at .500 and end the season on the upbeat. The stage was set for the '82 campaign long before training camp ever opened. For the first time in a while, optimism in Washington was built on a solid foundation.

On most NFL fronts, 1982 will be remembered as the year of the strike, of work stoppage that threw potentially good teams off stride and caused interest to wane for the first time in years. In Washington, however, it will be remembered as the season in which the Redskins claimed their first world title in 40 years, winning over the Miami Dolphins 27-17 in Super Bowl XVII. They rolled through the strike-shortened regular season with an 8-1 record, losing only to preseason favorite Dallas, then closed out the year at 12-1, avenging the loss to the Cowboys in the NFC Championship game along the way.

They did it with quarterback Joe Theismann having the finest season of his career, with powerful John Riggins bringing the running game to life, with an offensive line which called itself the Hogs dominating the opposition, with kicker Mark Moseley contributing so mightily that he was named the league's Most Valuable Player in one poll. While others seemed to fade in the stretch, blaming the strike, Gibbs' Redskins gained strength, improving weekly until they had earned the Vince Lombardi Trophy.

Now, the Redskins are the team of great expectations. Yet history will insist it is not a comfortable position to be in. In recent history, last year's Super Bowl champions have wilted to next year's disasters. The Oakland Raiders and the San Francisco 49ers serve as immediate reminders, teams which did not even make the playoffs the season after winning it all.

Such potential disaster is—and will be—the subject of many Gibbs lectures.

"I think being aware of what has happened to championship teams lately will work to our advantage," he says. "Our guys are very intelligent, and I think they understand what we've got ahead of us.

"We won last year because we were able to play at a very high level of efficiency. The obvious question is: Will we be able to come back to that level again this season? I like to think we will. We've already talked about it a great deal. As I told the team shortly after we won the Super Bowl, we're never more than a couple of defeats away from disaster. We've got a tough act to follow, and the best way to do it is to maintain a common-sense approach to the building program we've begun.

"This isn't a team of superstars. We've got some great players, but the reason we won last year was because every man on the squad did his job, made his contribution. That's what it takes to win."

There are few who will question the contribution of any member of the Redskins a year ago. Still, there were those whose efforts stood above others. Though Gibbs is quick to point out that his was not a "dominating" team, the performances of his team, particularly in the Super Bowl Tournament, were good reasons for argument.

Theismann, in his ninth NFL campaign, developed into the poised, confident leader Washington followers had been waiting for. While the wide-open attack first tried by Gibbs in '81 might have allowed him greater statistical days, the offense of '82 appeared tailor-made for the former Notre Dame standout. Under his direction, the offense averaged 21.1 points per game in a ball-control game that frustrated defenses. By the regular-season's end, he had thrown for 2,033 yards and 13 touchdowns, hit on 63.9 percent of his attempts and allowed only nine interceptions.

No doubt he'll return more confident than ever since he admits to being a strong believer in the Gibbs offensive philosophy. And it won't hurt that his primary passing targets are back. At wide receivers will be Art Monk (35 receptions last year) and Charlie Brown (32). Tight end Don Warren (27) comes off an outstanding season. Then, you have wide receiver Alvin Garrett, who caught 15 and scored five touchdowns in the playoffs alone, backed up by tight end Rick Walker (12 regular-season receptions, eight in the playoffs) and speedy Joe Washington, who had 19 receptions out of his running-back position.

Riggins returned last year from self-imposed retirement to capture the imagination of pro football followers everywhere. In a time when the darting, dashing antics of the Tony Dorsetts and Billy Simses are the measure of running backs in the NFL, Riggins won people over with his hard-hat running style. Going off tackle left, then right, he devastated defenses, averaging 3.1 yards per carry during the regular season. But it was in the four-game playoff series that Riggins really exploded. After rushing for 553 yards in the nine-game regular season, he roared for 610 in the playoffs, becoming the first running back in league history to go over the 100-yard mark in every playoff game.

And there is that group known better collectively than individually: The Hogs, the Redskins' offensive line. Left guard Russ Grimm was the only member receiving postseason

honors, earning a second team berth on the All-NFC team. But as a unit, the Washington forward wall was judged the best in the game. And it returns intact.

Grimm and Mark May will occupy the guard spots with Joe Jacoby and George Starke working at tackles and Jeff Bostic at center. More than able backup strength is found in tackle Donald Laster and guard Fred Dean. While Gibbs admits he would like at least one more strong reserve, that group is the kind most coaches would envy.

Yet another major offensive weapon is the reliable foot of kicker Moseley, who connected on 20 of 21 field goal attempts last year and joined Theismann, Brown, strong safety Tony Peters and kick returner Mike Nelms in the Pro Bowl in addition to winning several MVP awards.

While Moseley was scoring big with the kicking game, Nelms was outstanding as a kick and punt returner, averaging 24.2 and 7.9 yards, respectively, during his record-setting season.

When Washington defeated the Dolphins in the Super Bowl, it marked the sixth time in seven weeks the Redskins had held the opposition to less than 100 yards rushing. Meanwhile, rival quarterbacks were successful with their passes only 46.8 percent of the time. If, then, the axiom that defenses win championships is valid, the Redskins have a good shot at the brass ring again.

Manning a still-improving front four will be ends Mat Mendenhall and Dexter Manley, and tackles Dave Butz and Darryl Grant. Manley led in sacks with nine and a half. Reserve end Tony McGee, highly visible on passing downs, managed seven and a half.

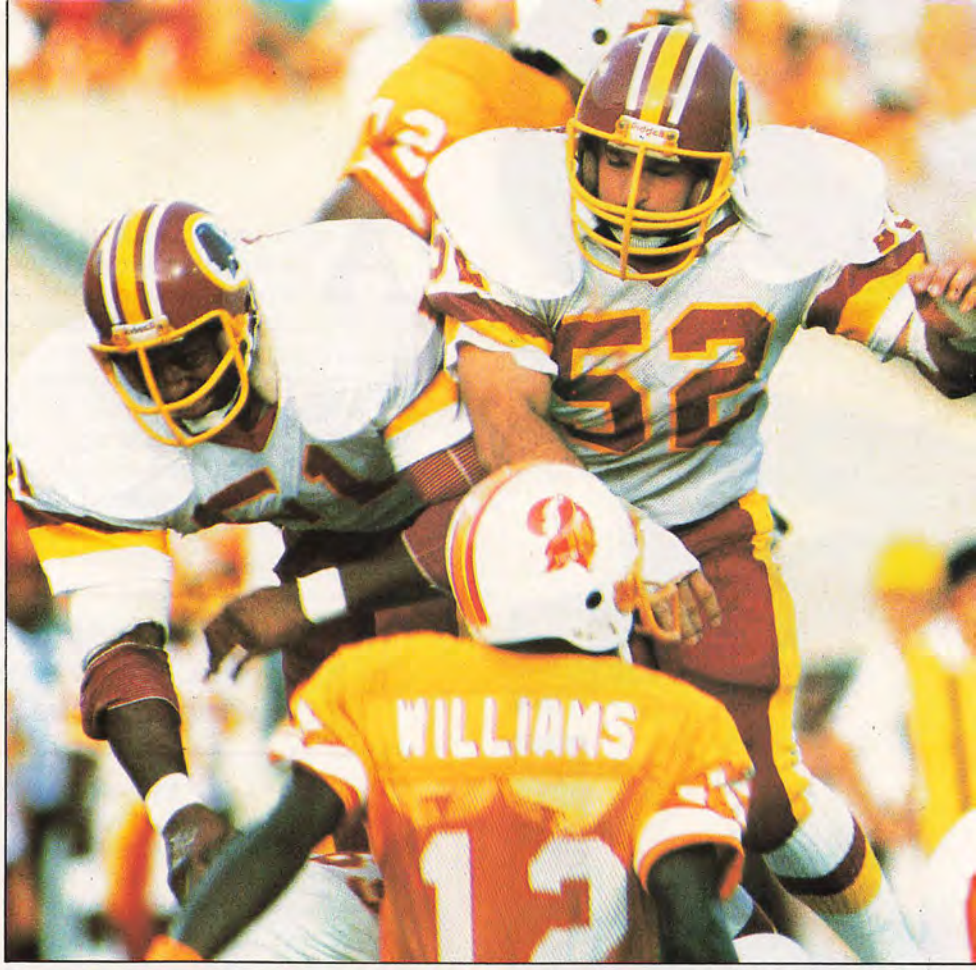
The secondary is solid with cornerback Vernon Dean coming off a rookie season that earned him postseason laurels; free safety Mark Murphy, who led the team in tackles with 100; All-NFC Peters, among the best in the league; and left corner Jeris White, who managed three interceptions in what Gibbs refers to as a solid season.

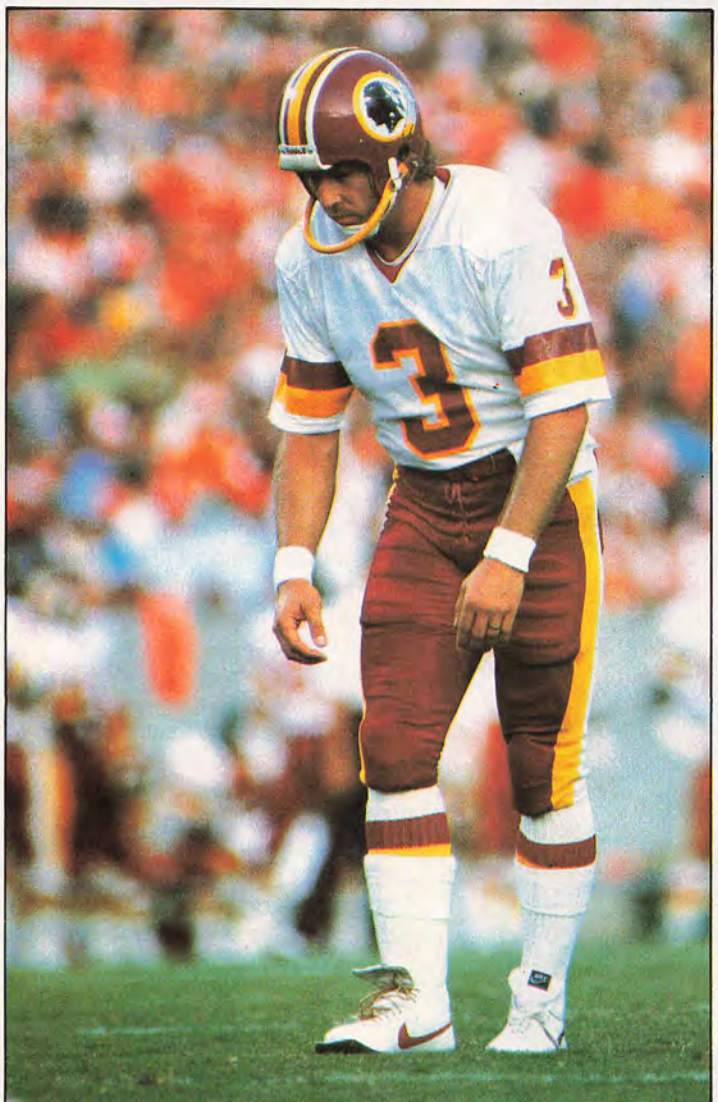
Middle linebacker Neal Olkewicz again was impressive. He was credited with 88 tackles and three recovered fumbles. Back at the outside linebacking spots are Rich Milot (73 tackles, four fumble recoveries) and Mel Kaufman. Help can be expected from Quentin Lowry and Peter Cronan.

This is a team that justifies confidence. "We know that teams will be pointing toward us now that we're the champion," says Gibbs. "And because of our finish, we're going to have a much more demanding schedule. For us to continue to win, it's clear to me that we must return to the high level of play that got us where we are."

That, he says, is the Redskins' goal. If reached, everything else will take care of itself. That's the Joe Gibbs philosophy and so far it's worked very well.

END





(Above) Monte Coleman and Neal Olkewicz enjoy sack-time at the expense of Tampa Bay's Doug Williams. Mark Moseley, kicking the old-fashioned way, that is, swinging his leg straight, hit on 20 of 21 field-goal attempts last season.

DALLAS

Aside from the casual announcement made in the pressbox, there was no big celebration, no stopping of the game to present him the ball, no flow of praise from the public address announcer. Still, it was a milestone of sorts for young Everson Walls, gifted second-year cornerback of the Dallas Cowboys.

During a game against New Orleans in the strike-abbreviated 1982 season, Walls collected an interception that set up a much needed Dallas score. It was his fifth, enabling him to stay in the running for the league interception title he eventually claimed for the second straight season. It was also the 50th of his still-young football career, dating back to schoolboy days at Richardson (Texas) Berkner High.

"At the rate he's going," says Cowboy special assistant Ermal Allen, "he's going to rewrite every interception record on the books. The guy has a phenomenal knack for being in the right place at the right time."

"He is, to my thinking, already the best cornerback in the game. There is no way to tell how good he's going to be before he gets through."

Playing football for the first time in his senior year in high school, Walls got off to a quick start, intercepting eight. At Grambling, he picked off one as a little-used freshman, none in his sophomore year spent primarily on specialty teams, four as a part-time junior starter, then led the nation as a senior with 11.

Disappointed that he was not drafted, Walls signed a free-agent agreement with the Cowboys, returned home to live with his mother less than a mile from the Dallas practice field and set about to prove himself an NFL-caliber athlete. Little more than a face in the crowd when training camp opened, he gained quick attention in preseason games with three interceptions, a fumble recovery and a touchdown after blocking a punt.

Walls soon had a spot on the Dallas roster and the Cowboys had a new starting left cornerback. By the season's end, he had broken the club interception record for one season with 11 and had become the first rookie since Detroit's Lem Barney in 1967 to lead the league. He was the sixth free agent in history to be selected to the Pro Bowl in his first season. In that game he had two more interceptions.

For those who suggested that Walls' second year might be less spectacular, consider that he again led the league in interceptions (with seven), earned All-Pro honors and was picked again for the Pro Bowl. As a starter in that game, he intercepted two more passes.

Walls' career total has now climbed to 54. Which isn't bad for a 6-1, 190-pounder the scouts collectively agreed lacked speed and that special something indicating a promising pro career.

"Here's a guy whose been around for only two seasons," says former Dallas strong safety Charlie Waters, "and he is, to my thinking, already the best cornerback in the game. There is no way to tell how good he's going to be before he gets through. He's got everything it takes to become one of the all-time greats. All the physical tools are there and, maybe even more important, the mental ones as well. He's one of those rare guys who came into the league with confidence, and his confidence has done nothing but grow."

That confidence obviously has spread. Coach Tom Landry, in fact, believes so strongly in Walls' ability to come up with the game-turning big play that he has allowed him more freedom of range than has ever been given a defensive back.

Landry refers to Walls as the team's biggest surprise. "As a rookie, though, he was playing on instinct more than anything else," Landry says. "He got beat a great deal and had his moments of confusion, but he always bounced back, always came back to challenge the offense. Then, last year, came more poise and a better knowledge of the overall scheme of our defense. I suppose it sounds a bit silly, saying that someone who led the NFL in interceptions and went to the Pro Bowl didn't really know what he was doing, but that was the case much of the time in Everson's rookie year."

(continued)

With 18 interceptions in only two seasons, Everson Walls is the league's leading pass burglar.

MAXPRO
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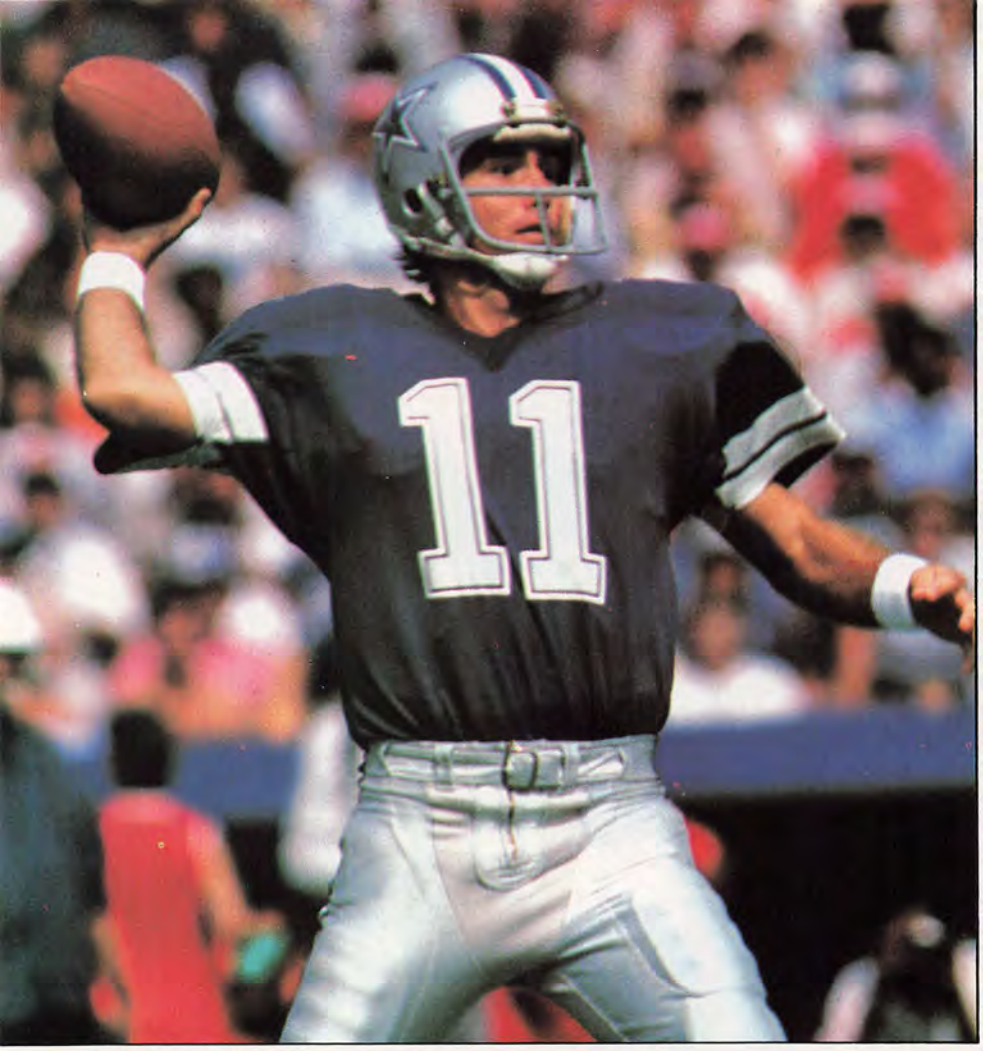

In last year's strike-shortened season, Danny White (above) and Tony Dorsett combined for more than 3,000 yards total offense.

(Dallas continued)

Indeed, in Walls' first season, his was a feast-or-feathers approach. On one play, he might pull off an interception that would turn things in the Cowboys' favor. But the next time on the field, he was just as likely to get burned for a long-distance reception. More than once, his area of responsibility was the target for over 100 yards in receptions during a game.

Now, however, the negative side of Walls' play has been drastically reduced. The big-play talent is still there and a consistency in his overall play has emerged. A measure of the progress Walls has made is mirrored in the fact that Landry, a man who lives and wins with a play-it-by-the-book philosophy, chose last year to give his newest defensive gem some freedom. For those who have long followed the Cowboys, it was a move judged dramatic. The system, so says the Cowboy credo, is why the Dallas flex defense works. Those who choose not to work within it wind up in Tampa Bay or Cleveland or, heaven forbid, Buffalo. No player, regardless of ability, is larger than the system.

"We attempt to play our defense basically as it is designed," Landry says, "but when you have a player with exceptional ability, you allow him to do some things from basic instincts. It's like Tony Dorsett running the ball. The basic design of the play is important, but if he sees a way to break it for bigger yardage, you don't worry about the decisions he makes on his own because that is part of his special ability."

Without question, the Cowboys have a number of players with the "special ability" Landry refers to. That Dallas will be in the playoff picture annually has become one of those things NFL fans can set their clocks by. In recent years, however, a strange twist has been added to the success story of "America's Team."

For three straight years, Dallas has reached the NFC championship game and lost its bid for a sixth trip to the Super Bowl. First, it was Philadelphia that blocked the door. Then San Francisco. And last year, the Washington Redskins.

Thus, the chart showing Dallas has enjoyed 17 straight winning seasons, 16 playoff appearances in the last 17 years and 10 trips to the conference championship game in a 13-year span is no longer the important measure of Cowboy success. When, the critics are asking, will they get over the hump and win the game that will vault them back into the Super Bowl?

There is evidence that the question has given birth to a new form of pressure in the Dallas ranks. While the strike was disruptive enough, things were further complicated as more angry words than usual were heard. Receivers Tony Hill, Drew Pearson and Butch Johnson waged a verbal war for a while, then turned to angry silence. Dorsett, frustrated by his rushing productivity, suggested that the line wasn't getting the job done at times. The

(continued on page 185)

THINGS TO LOOK FOR in the DALLAS COWBOYS

In 1983:

★ **Tom Landry**, third winningest coach in NFL history, improving his 202-115-6 record (plus 20-14 in the playoffs).

★ **Tony Dorsett** climbing the list of pro football's all-time leading rushers.

★ **Drew Pearson** passing Bob Hayes as the club's all-time receiving yardage leader.

★ **Danny White** moving into the top five on the list of pro football's all-time leading passers.

★ **Rafael Septien** becoming the first member of the Cowboys to score 500 points.

★ **Randy White** earning consensus All-Pro honors for the sixth year in a row.

★ **Harvey Martin** leading the Cowboys in quarterback traps for the 11th straight season.

★ **Billy Joe DuPree** extending his consecutive games played streak of 143, third longest in club history.

★ **Everson Walls** becoming the first player to lead the NFL in interceptions three times, and the first to lead the league in interceptions three years in a row.

★ **Dennis Thurman** adding to his career playoff interception total of seven.

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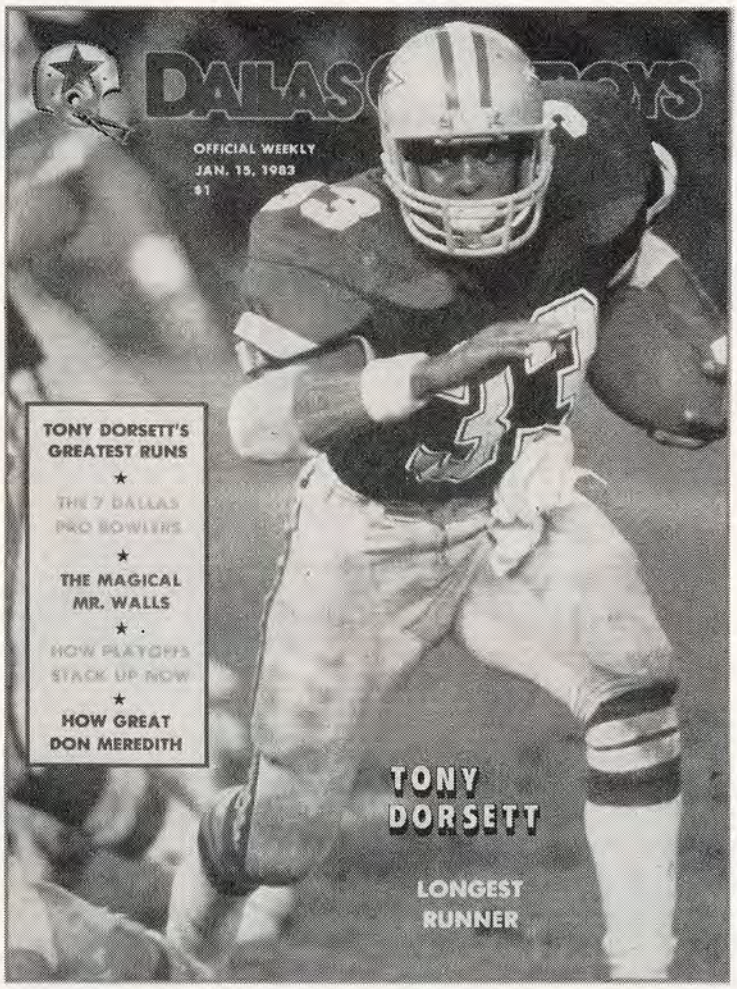

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Riggins and the Redskins

Meant for Immortality

Redskin John Riggins asked for 40 carries in the Super Bowl and got the ball 38 times.

by Dave Kindred

The virtues of hindsight are many and without flaw, but only the insensate failed to realize that here, right now, reach out and touch the top hat, this was a moment to pluck from the air and put under a bell jar, for it was so damned zany, so foolish, so *John Riggins,* that at 9 o'clock on a Friday night you knew the Redskins would win the Super Bowl because John Riggins had arrived at the sweet spot in time which guaranteed he could walk through hell in a gasoline suit without breaking a sweat.

Stuttering traditionalists saw only portents of doom in the Friday night party thrown by Jack Kent Cooke, the Redskins' owner. Didn't the fool know the Super Bowl is a big deal? Have a party, sure. *After* the game. Why destroy the concentration of his hired hands with the self-congratulatory spasm of a $50,000 party only 40 hours before the most important game of their lives?

Over in a corner, his game face stiff, offensive guard Russ Grimm worked on his chocolate mousse with a knife and fork. A woman asked, "Do you get nervous before a game?" Grimm said, "Naw," and sawed away at the mousse. Then the young guy, a pro only two years, looked across the dance floor, looked past Cooke dancing with a countess, over the 500 people celebrating a victory that hadn't come yet and then Grimm's game face softened up because in the distant glare of some television lights he saw walking, talking, living, breathing certification that victory on Sunday was a sure thing.

John Riggins in top hat and tails!

The invitations had read: casual wear.

John Riggins wore a black top hat, black morning coat with tails, white gloves and a smile this wide. He carried a cane, which he raised occasionally as he passed through the party, as if to anoint his subjects, and every so often he twirled the cane, rolling it through his fingers the way Fred Astaire did in the movies with Ginger Rogers.

"If I had known before 2 o'clock this afternoon that there was going to be a party, I might have dressed up," Riggins said.

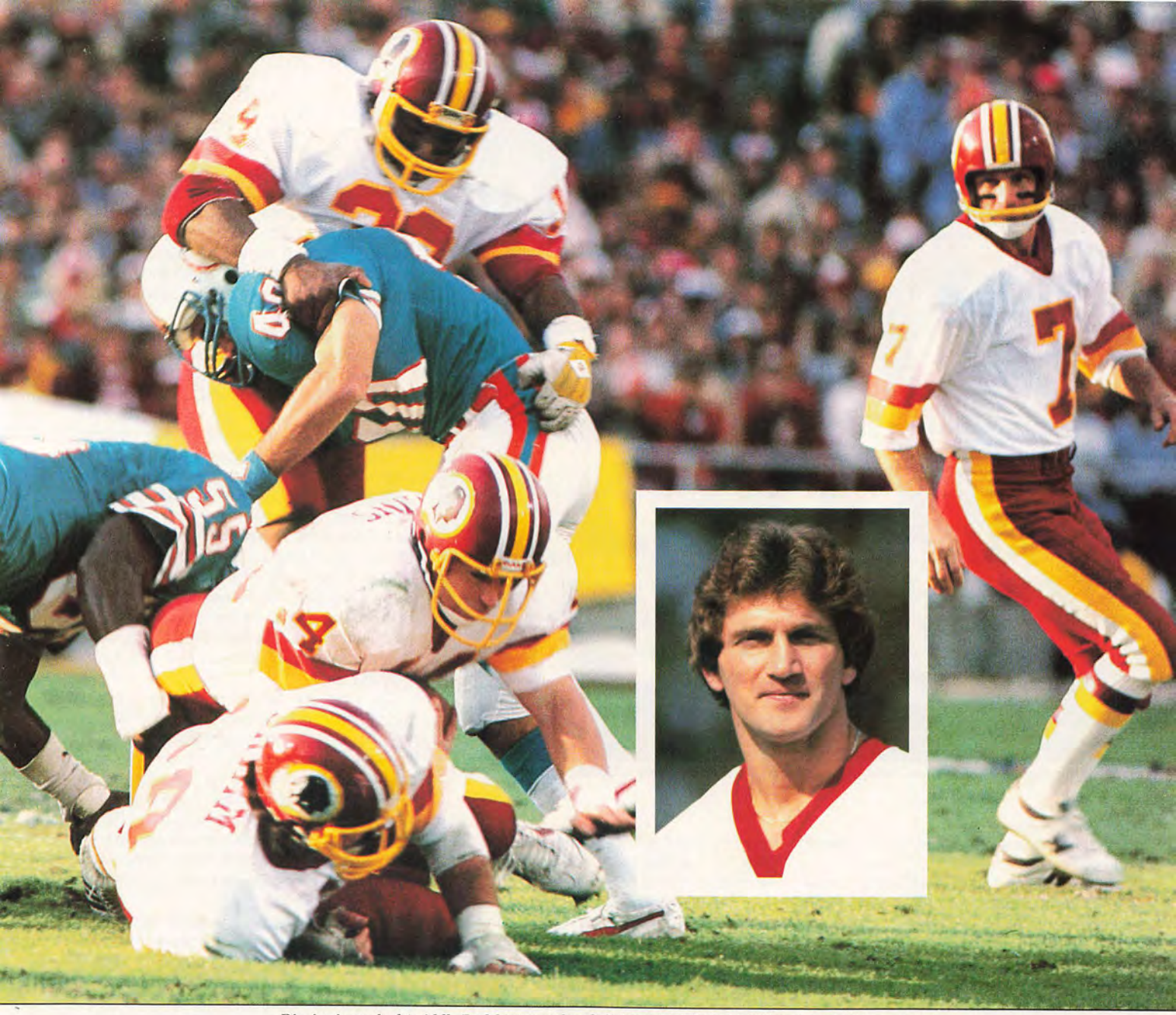
Riggins, so elegant, carried a beer.

"Dance across the tables?" he said. "That comes later."

Right then, you knew.

You knew it was meant to be.

Come Sunday afternoon, you knew John Riggins would dance across the Dolphins. He would carry the ball 38 times for 166 yards. Later, the offensive backfield coach, Don Breaux, would say Riggins came to him on Wednesday and asked what the Super Bowl



Riggins is stacked (middle Redskin) on a handoff from Joe Theismann (inset) in the Super Bowl.

records were. He wanted to break them. Joe Theismann would say Riggins came to him early that week and said, "I'm gonna carry 40 times for 204 yards."

Well. The most famous Hog of all, the Hog who wears top hat and tails, as elegant as Astaire and as heavy-duty as Nagurski carrying a beer truck into the end zone, John Riggins knew all week what, back in September, only the truly crazed might have dreamed under the influence of industrial-strength medication. He knew the Redskins would win the Super Bowl.

The Redskins were gawdawful in September. They lost all four of their preseason games. At least one Washington sports pundit (blush) wrote that the Redskins were five years away from a Super Bowl because George Allen, then wandering in the exile he earned, had ravaged the franchise with trades of draft choices that left the Redskins meager resources with which to improve. Besides, Owner Cooke, who spent $94 million for a silly old building in New York City, wouldn't spend a measly million or so to hire Bruce Clark and Renaldo Nehemiah, both of whom offered their splendid bodies to a team desperate for a defensive end and a wide receiver.

No team in history ever lost four preseason games and then did any better than 9-7 in the real season. No team (more punditry) could win steadily with an eighth-round wide receiver named Charlie Brown. Good grief. Nor could the Redskins' defense succeed as long as the inconsistent Dexter Manley worked at end. Even the veterans seemed suspect. Placekicker Mark Moseley might have been traded except a rookie missed two field goals in the last preseason game. John Riggins seemed best used as Joe Washington's sidekick.

Wrong, wrong, all wrong, and that was clear very quickly. It didn't seem that important at the time. In hindsight it does. After Charlie Brown caught two touchdown passes in the season-opening 37-34 victory over Philadelphia, the little fellow from South Carolina State said, "I don't ever want to do a 4.6."

We were talking speed, as in the 40 yards that is football's standard, and it was suggested that Charlie Brown did it in 4.6.

"I've clocked myself at 4.5 the one time I did it," Brown said, "and I believe I'm a consistent 4.4."

"The thing about Charlie Brown," said quarterback Theismann, "is that he has an innate ability for the big play. You sense it about him. You say to yourself, 'It's going to happen; when is it going to happen?' "

The memorable section of this interview came when Brown said he had a lot of heroes

(continued)

Hogs Don Warren, Rick Walker, Joe Jacoby and Fred Dean think highly of coach/creator Joe Bugel.

(Super Bowl continued)

among the professional receivers he'd seen on television.

"John Jefferson," he said, all bubbly. "Drew Pearson. And Lynn Swann. Out of those three I couldn't pick one. I love 'em all."

E.B. White wrote, "To do it, you first must dream it." Here's Brown again: "People were always saying things about me and Swann. Those three guys know how to become winners. They always make the big catches. Nothing can hold them back in situations in big games."

Trailing the Eagles 27-14, the Redskins needed a big play. Theismann sent Brown deep. The result was a 78-yard touchdown play. Later, Moseley, the unwanted veteran, kicked a field goal at game's end to tie it and another in overtime to win it.

In the next week's 21-13 victory at Tampa Bay, the Redskins' defensive line badgered Doug Williams into such ineffectiveness that he was sacked twice and scrambled loose nine times.

"I feel like on third-and-long, it's up to me," said the Redskin defensive end who worried Williams the most and also recovered two fumbles.

Dexter Manley speaking. "We're good. We've been getting criticized for the defensive line, but that's making us play hard. We're going to prove to everybody that we're not as bad as people said. Like me, I want to be the very best there is." Then, cheerily: "I had one sack but I should have had five." Doug Williams said, "Dexter Manley is one of the four best defensive ends in the league."

Yes, in this game the future was visible to all who would see. Riggins carried 34 times, tying a Redskin record set in 1937. He gained 136 yards. Over the last three and a half minutes, Riggins carried seven straight times for 48 yards, and Coach Joe Gibbs said, "John says he can't get a rhythm going unless he carries four or five times. So we end each day's practice with the 'Riggo drill,' just giving it to him five times. Everybody has fun with it."

Even without knowing where this stuff would lead, it was clear that something special was going on. Here was a kid receiver who dreams of being Lynn Swann. Here was a kid defensive end talking of being the best in the world. Here was a kicker winning under the gun when the week before he was almost out of a job. And here was John Riggins running more often than any Redskin the last 45 years, here was Riggo running behind the Hogs.

Did someone mention the Hogs? They became football's best known unit. Back in September, before the strike erased eight weeks of play, only the cognoscenti knew the Hogs were nine offensive linemen and Riggins ("fullback," said tackle George Starke, "is nothing but a glorified offensive lineman"). Line coach Joe Bugel started it one day when he noticed, not that any perspicacity was necessary, that Russ Grimm and Joe Jacoby had these stomachs that stuck out to here.

"Short guys with big bellies," is the way Bugel put it, and he would say, "'OK, you hogs, let's go down in the bullpen and hit those sleds.' Some guys might have resented it but these guys loved it."

The Hogs: tackles Starke and Jacoby, guards Grimm and Mark May (with Fred Dean later, and Ron Saul injured), center Jeff Bostic, tight ends Rick Walker and Don Warren, and Riggins.

Not to put much weight on this psycho-babble, for these alliances are fragile in the best of cases, but there came a time late in the season when folks with unerring hindsight swore they saw it all coming the first time they heard about the camaraderie of the Hogs, to say nothing of the Smurfs and the Fun Bunch.

The Smurfs are Alvin Garrett and Virgil Seay. They are wide receivers about the size of those little blue dolls you can hang on your rearview mirrors. "I'm Papa Smurf," said Seay, "because I'm the tall one. I'm 5-7 1/3. Alvin's only 5-7."

As receivers, Garrett and Seay are also members of the Fun Bunch, along with Walker, Warren, Brown, Clarence Harmon and Otis Wonsley. Any time one of them scores a touchdown, the rest come running from all directions to meet in the end zone, where they perform a rite of celebration so delightful, so childlike, that once you see it you want to have a picture of it, to prove to folks that however much money these guys make, they still are kids having fun.

First, the fellow scoring the touchdown waits for everybody to arrive. They gather in a circle, all these kids in their football outfits. They bring their arms up to chest level, crossing them at the wrists in a secret-clubhouse kind of signal that means "togetherness" (according to Walker, founder of the Fun Bunch). Then they leap as high as they can to top it off with a communal sky-high high-five.

"It's something different," Brown said. "Like Butch Johnson (of Dallas) has the California Quake after his touchdowns. What I like about ours is that it is not an individual thing. It's a team thing. And all the fans get into it, too. It makes us want to score."

Said Walker: "When any of us score, I feel like I myself scored. It's the most unselfish thing I've ever been associated with in pro sports."

All this harmony and fellowship may or may not have had anything to do with anything (only the Yankees seem to win and yet hate each other). But it was a very real sign of the influence of Bobby Beathard, the general manager, and Gibbs, the second-year coach.

"We passed up some higher-rated talents to get players with character and intelligence," Beathard said, and Gibbs said, "You have

(continued on page 177)

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MIAMI

There were times last season when Miami defensive back Mike Kozlowski looked into the opposing backfield at the face of the quarterback. Usually, he was delighted with what he saw.

One of those times came against the San Diego Chargers in the second round of the AFC playoffs, a 34-13 Miami victory over a Charger team that was totally frustrated.

"You should have seen his face," Kozlowski says of Charger quarterback Dan Fouts. "His expression was one of panic. You could tell he was feeling the heat. You could see him look downfield where his receivers were supposed to be, and they'd have three of us around 'em and he'd have to look somewhere else—except there was nowhere else."

By the end of last season, that's the way it was for most Dolphin opponents. Miami made it to the Super Bowl. The Dolphins got there in large part owing to their defense, known as the Killer Bees because six of the 11 starters' last names start with the letter *B*.

That defense yielded 256 yards of total offense and 114 yards average-per-game passing, both figures lowest in the National Football League.

The Dolphins got there in large part owing to their defense, known as the Killer Bees because six of the 11 starters' last names start with the letter *B*.

"We've worked hard to become the No. 1 defense in the league," says linebacker A.J. Duhe, spiritual and emotional leader of the unit. "We don't have too many guys getting recognition for their contributions, and we want their names to be known."

The Dolphins find it amusing that they are now being praised from Key Biscayne to Key West. "People got down on us in 1981, but we didn't have all the problems they thought we had," says safety Glenn Blackwood, whose brother Lyle plays alongside him in the Miami secondary.

"There was a stretch of games in the middle of 1981 when we gave up considerable yardage. What is forgotten is that we turned it around and played pretty good defense in the last four games that season. It carried over to last year and we got better every week."

Two years ago, the Dolphin defense had serious problems. Starting cornerback Don McNeal and defensive end Doug Betters had limited playing time because of illness or injury. Free safety Lyle Blackwood didn't become a starter until the seventh game. Kim Bokamper had switched from linebacker to defensive end in training camp. Duhe was in his second year as a linebacker after switching from the defensive line, and linebacker Bob Brudzinski was still learning the system after being obtained in a trade with the Los Angeles Rams.

Learning that system under Bill Arnsparger, Miami's assistant head coach and resident defensive genius—"the best football mind in the game today" is how Kozlowski describes him—has never been an easy task.

"In the past, it's always been him trying to convey his thoughts to us," says Kozlowski, who is Miami's nickel-back specialist on obvious passing situations. "Now, I finally know what he's talking about; before, he used to get a lot of blank stares. His calls are brilliant. He's got a coverage for every situation. He's usually way ahead of anything anybody throws at us."

Arnsparger has been with Miami Coach Don Shula for 10 years, sandwiched around two and a half years as head coach of the New York Giants. He received a game ball after the 1973 Dolphins won a second straight Super Bowl. Actually, he is a man who does his best work in dark rooms.

"We do nothing different from everybody else," Arnsparger insists. "There are no secrets to defense. Everybody has the same combinations, the same coverages. Everybody knows everybody else. We just play real well together."

Clearly, though, there is more to it than that. Opposing offenses never really know where the next Dolphin is coming from. Kozlowski, as the nickel back, frequently blitzes from what appears to be a linebacker position. Bokamper occasionally

(continued)

Like most placekickers, Uwe von Schamann gets a bang out of beating the referee to the "it's good" signal.

Andra Franklin gets the ball near the enemy goal line (top). On defense, Miami puts a lot of faith in its six Killer Bees, including Kim Bokamper (58) and Bob Baumhower (73)

(Miami continued)

abandons his defensive end spot and makes like a linebacker in pass coverages.

Meanwhile, the defensive backs frequently shift back and forth from man-to-man to zone coverages, occasionally blitz from the safety position and constantly try to jam receivers at the line, throwing them off stride and out of their usual patterns.

"The key to it is that it always looks the same; that's what I mean about disguising our defenses," says Kozlowski. "I can be in the same position on two different plays and be covering two different people.

"The whole idea is to create confusion, to give the pass rush an extra second that could lead to a sack or make the quarterback hurry his throw, just like we did against Fouts."

And just like the Dolphins did against Richard Todd and the New York Jets the following week in the AFC championship game, a contest the Dolphins won 14-0.

Against San Diego, Miami held Charger receivers Kellen Winslow, Wes Chandler and Charlie Joiner to four receptions. Against the Jets, they limited Lam Jones and Wesley Walker to five catches.

Duhe had three interceptions against the Jets. The third was on a screen pass and resulted in a 35-yard run for the touchdown that broke the game open and allowed the Dolphins to advance to the Super Bowl.

Shula described Duhe's performance that day as the best he'd ever seen by a linebacker.

"We drafted A.J. No. 1 a while back and we had to find a spot for his leadership," Shula says. "He's an emotional guy who can turn a game around with those big plays. The thing we noticed immediately was his ability to run; he runs so smoothly."

Shula did not always feel that kindly toward Duhe, however. "There were times when he was learning the position that we had some problems," says Shula. "It's been painful at times for us and for him. He's a guy who has so much natural ability, but he was undersized for a defensive end. Then we made the switch with Bokamper (who went from linebacker to the line). Those two moves have helped us tremendously."

In the beginning, Duhe says he was not all that convinced he could make the transition to linebacker.

"I thought they were trying to tell me to pack my bags," he says. "But Coach Shula told me they were doing it because they thought I could help the defense.

"He said, 'We're not going to let you play linebacker if you don't belong there; if you can't make the adjustment, you won't play.' So there was really a lot of pressure put on me to make the adjustment. I took pride in it."

Duhe's biggest problem was pass coverage. At 248 pounds, he was having difficulty covering the quicker backs. Arnsparger tried to adjust the defense to help Duhe in those

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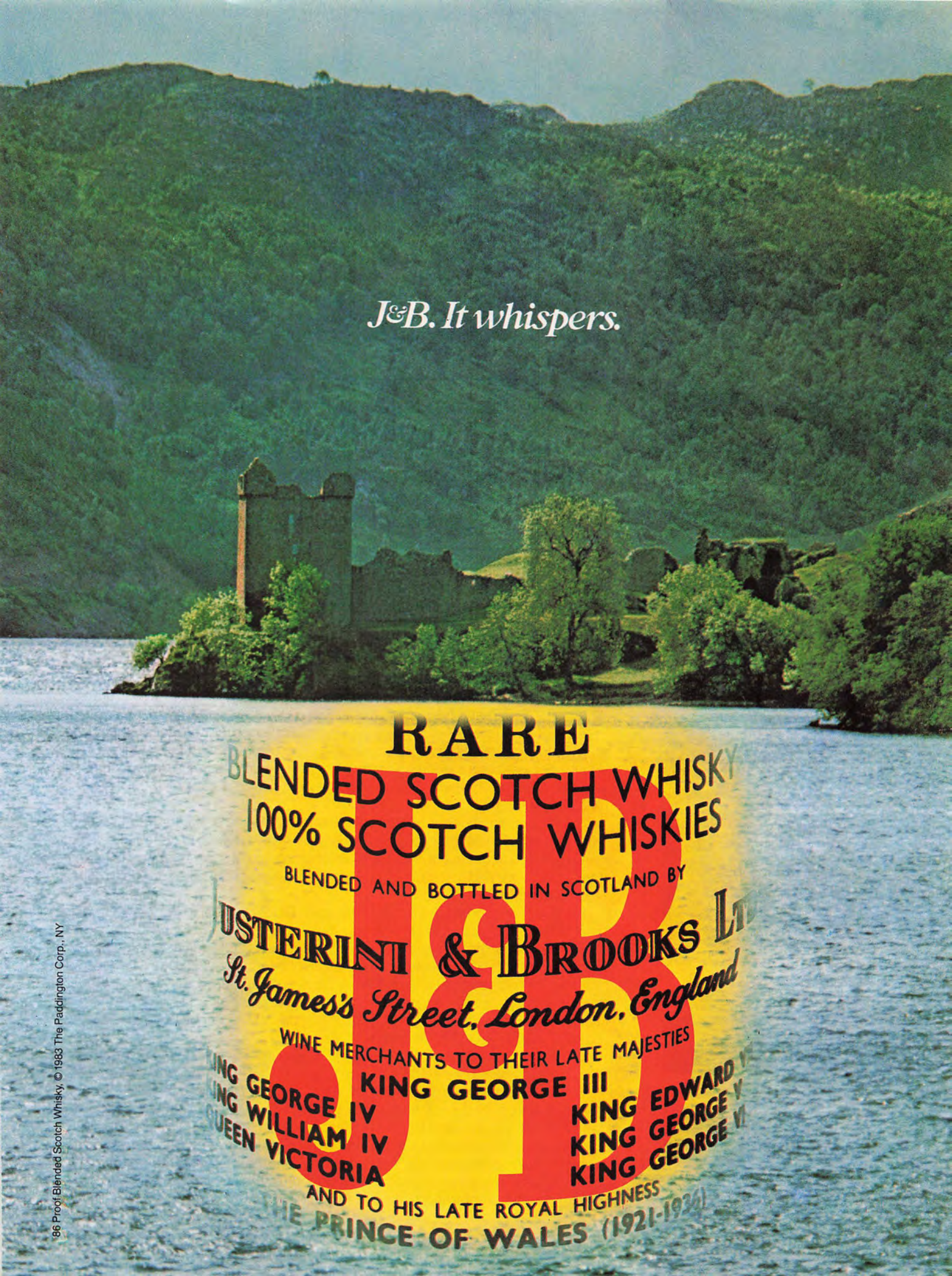
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ATLANTA

It was a heady time for 40-year-old Dan Henning.

On Sunday, Jan. 30, the Washington Redskins won Super Bowl XVII, thanks in large measure to an offense he helped mold as Joe Gibbs' offensive coordinator.

Just two days later, Henning had gone from top assistant of the world champions to head coach of the Atlanta Falcons, a team many are convinced has enough talent to win the Super Bowl.

Brimming with optimism, Henning impressed the man who recommended him to Owner Rankin Smith, vice president Eddie LeBaron, with a calm confidence bordering on cockiness. Henning promised to be a different kind of coach than Leeman Bennett, during whose six-year stay Falcon fortunes ebbed and flowed, not only in style but in philosophy.

Atlanta's new leader, the man who inherits an offense built around quarterback Steve Bartkowski and fullback William Andrews, is credited with playing vital roles in the development of offensive schemes and quarterbacks at his last three assistant coaching stops.

After pushing the Cowboys to the brink in the 1980 playoffs, the Falcons did a bellyflop in '81, then last season squeezed into the poststrike playoffs with a 5-4 record, only to lose to the Vikings in the opening round. They had dropped their last two regular-season games by lopsided scores to Green Bay and New Orleans.

Can Henning restore confidence? Atlanta's new leader, the man who inherits an offense built around quarterback Steve Bartkowski and fullback William Andrews, is credited with playing vital roles in the development of offensive schemes and quarterbacks at his last three assistant coaching stops—Washington (1980-82), Miami (1978-79) and New York Jets (1976-77).

A 1963 graduate of William & Mary, where he played quarterback, Henning took a zig-zag course—Florida State, Virginia Tech, Houston Oilers, Virginia Tech, Florida State—before landing with the Jets. His playing career included stops with the San Diego Chargers (1966) and the Norfolk Neptunes of the Continental League (1965-66).

Henning hasn't been a head coach since calling the shots for Ferguson (Va.) High School's junior varsity team in the Sixties. "I always liked to coach," he says. "I never wanted to get out but, when you're moving five children around the country, the logistics of trying to make sure that each one is progressing becomes a drain on you and your wife."

Henning was born in the Bronx, grew up in Queens, went to school in Brooklyn and became the quarterback at St. Francis Prep, alma mater of Vince Lombardi. At William & Mary, he threw an 81-yard touchdown pass against Navy. He was coached by a young assistant named Lou Holtz. With the Chargers, Henning was third-string behind John Hadl and Steve Tensi and, although he never threw a pass in competition, he was exposed to the offensive mind of Sid Gillman. At Virginia Tech, Henning helped to develop Don Strock, 1972 national total offense and passing leader now with the Miami Dolphins

When Henning walked out of a job at Florida State because of a disagreement with the head coach, he sold insurance to support his family, and it was his ties with Holtz that brought him back to football. When Holtz got the head job with the Jets in 1976, he asked his old quarterback to coach the quarterbacks and receivers. Holtz left after one season, and Walt Michaels asked him to stay on.

Henning credits his two years with Gibbs for putting the finishing touches on his apprenticeship. "We thought the same way, and he gave me the opportunity in some of the areas a head coach is concerned with, as far as decisions on personnel and organization," says Henning.

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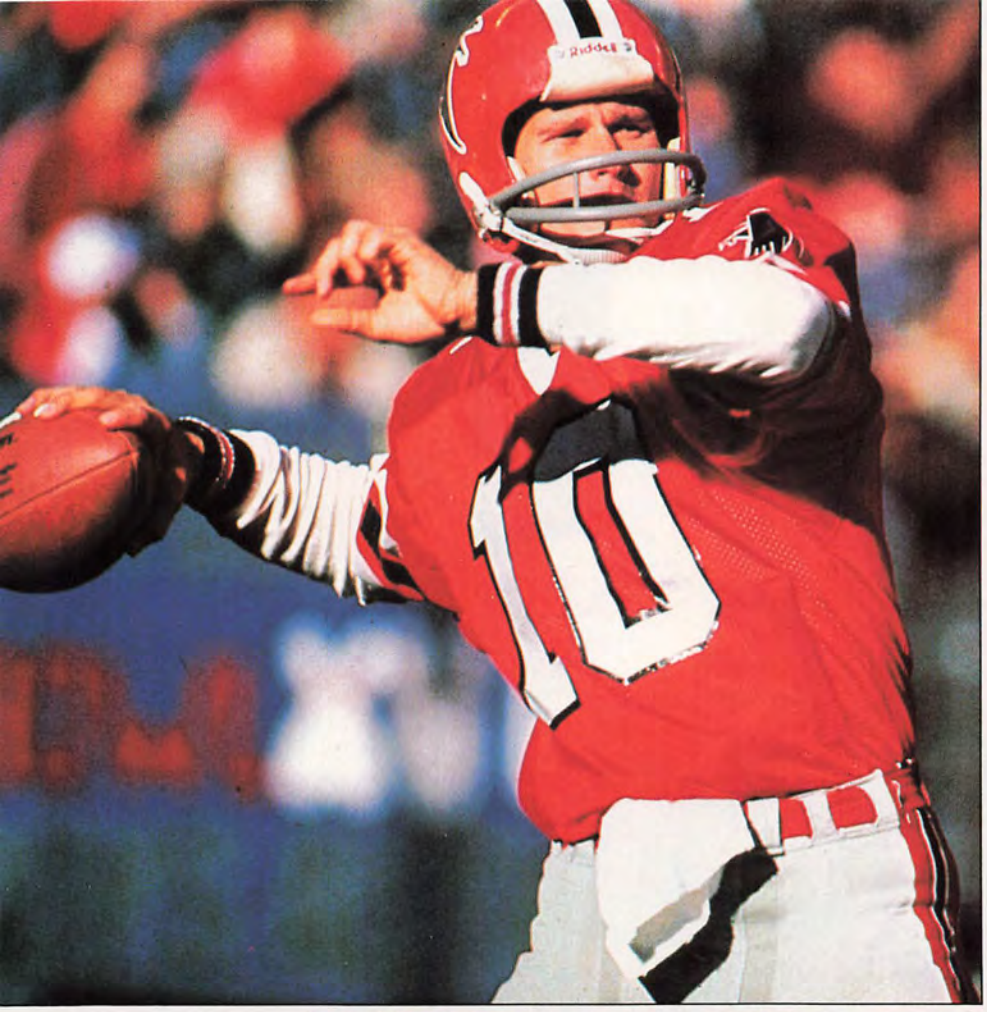
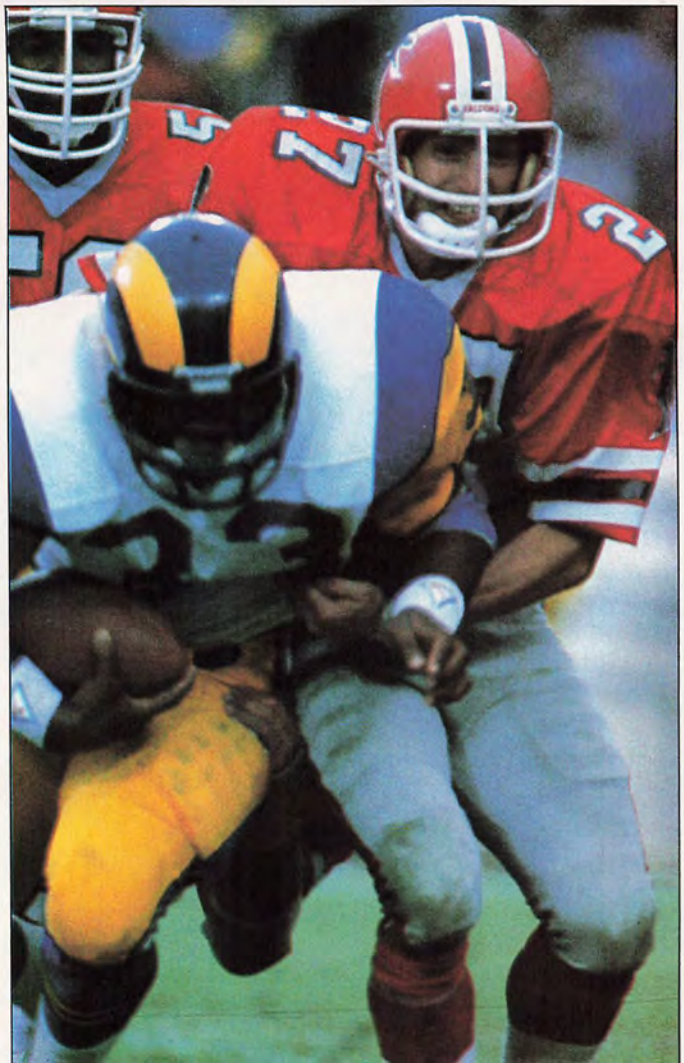
Alfred Jenkins' consecutive game receiving streak stands at 98 games. Harold Carmichael of the Eagles holds the record: 127.

FALCONS



Passer Steve Bartkowski (top left) and runner-receiver William Andrews (top) generate much of the Falcons' offense. (Left) Tom Pridemore lives up to his name as a defensive back.



(Atlanta continued)

A long-time friend of Henning's, Bugsy Ingleburg, director of operations for the Tampa Bay Bandits of the USFL, thinks the fact that he left the game and returned will make him a better coach. "It will give him some compassion," Ingleburg says. "There aren't many men who have done that and been successful. You learn there's a real world out there."

For Owner Smith, the "real world" is putting Atlanta in the Super Bowl. Bennett talked of the hardships of coaching a team without tradition. It's Henning's job to build one.

First, he must make sure that Bartkowski fits into his system and then attempt to shore up a mediocre defense that finished eighth in the NFC last year.

When Henning accepted the job, he realized the cupboard wasn't bare. Despite a poor finish, Bartkowski completed 63 percent of his passes, third-best in the NFL. But for the first time in four seasons, he threw more interceptions (11) than touchdowns (8), a major restoration project for Henning.

Andrews again led the conference in combined rushing and receiving yards. No. 1 draft pick Gerald Riggs finished the season as the second-leading rookie rusher in the NFC with 299 yards. Billy "White Shoes" Johnson took conference punt-return honors with an 11.4 average.

Guard R.C. Thielemann was named All-Pro. Andrews, offensive tackle Mike Kenn and

center Jeff Van Note made the Pro Bowl selection, the latter for the fourth straight year. Linebacker Buddy Curry, who led his team in tackles, was a Pro Bowl alternate. Alfred Jenkins finished the season with the NFL's longest receiving streak—98 games.

"I think my strengths are dealing with people," says the new Atlanta coach. "I like to coach; I like to teach."

General Manager Tom Braatz said it was Henning's aggressiveness that sold the Falcon front office. "I liked the way he came at us," says Braatz. "He was very specific in the things he wanted, in what he had to have."

Henning says he likes the single running-back style of offense employed by the Redskins so successfully with John Riggins, hinting the Falcons may attempt to do the same thing with Andrews. Lack of offensive efficiency was the reason Bennett walked the plank.

Henning's task is clear: He must repair a franchise's reputation for being able to get so far, but not far enough. He must change the image of a team that doesn't win when it counts most. Falcon followers have high hopes he will bring some of that Redskin magic along with him.

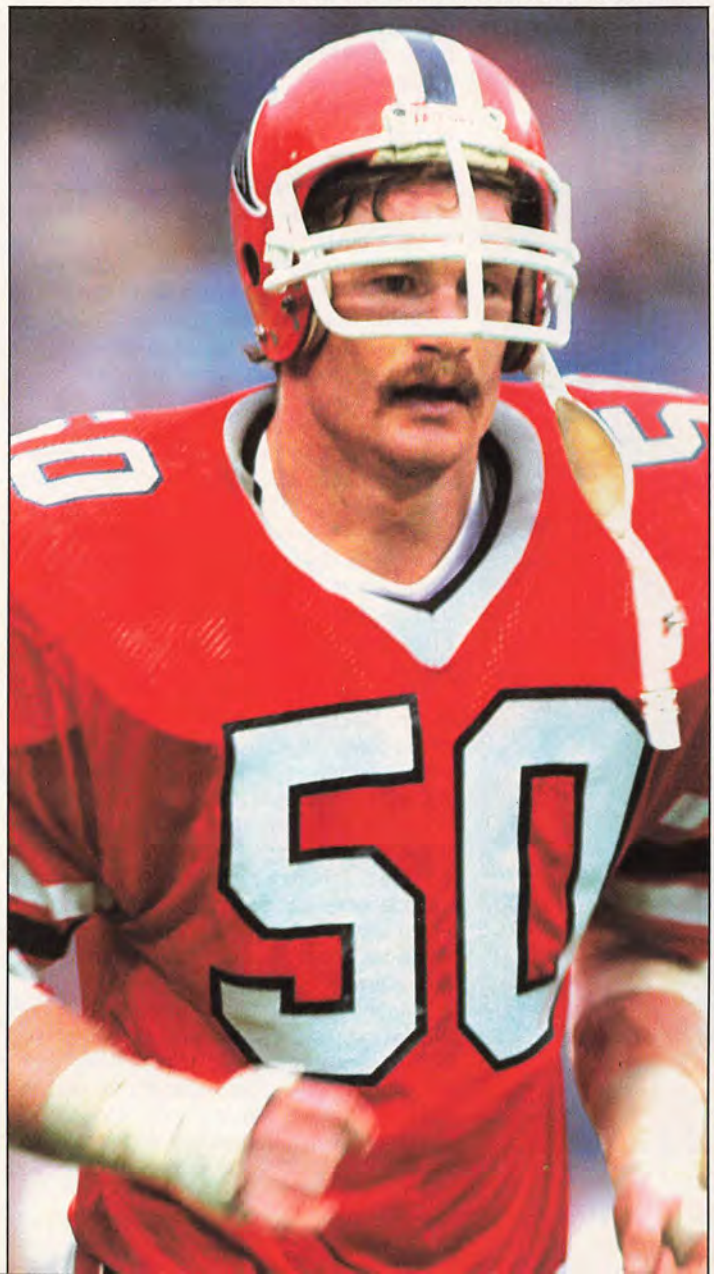
Henning says he likes the single running-back style of offense the Redskins employed successfully with John Riggins, hinting the Falcons may try the same thing with Andrews.

In Atlanta, his first impression was dramatic. Fresh from Super Bowl XVII, Henning moved a columnist for *The Atlanta Journal and Constitution* to comment: "The man who replaced Leeman Bennett as Atlanta's sixth coach in 17 years did it by forcefully sticking his 40-year-old chin into the challenge of his first head coaching job in the National Football League. If the cynics in the crowd were prone to suggest that a Falcon coach is merely hired to be fired, the look on Dan Henning's face and the intensity in his voice was saying, in so many words, 'Wanna bet?' "

If determination on a coach's part indeed has the same effect on the players, the Falcons' opposition should begin preparing for them now.

END

Linebacker Buddy Curry led the Falcons in tackles. New Coach Dan Henning (at right of Joe Gibbs, his former boss) inherits a talented team.



Dan Fouts: THE PASSING MACHINE

by Nick Canepa

The postgame Dan Fouts will never be known as a lighthearted quipster. No frills, few smiles. That's Fouts. Seems like more of a postmortem. The quarterback of the San Diego Chargers is all business after a game as well as during one. Win by 50 or lose by 50, he's consistent. Just an intense passing machine.

"I guess it takes awhile for the intensity to wear off," Fouts said at one point during the 1982 season.

A scene that took place in the locker room beneath Miami's Orange Bowl brought out more of Fouts' true character than normally can be seen behind that beard. It was following Miami's 34-13 playoff victory over the Chargers last Jan. 16, marking the fourth consecutive year that Fouts & Co. had entered Pete Rozelle's Super Bowl sweepstakes, only to fail. It was a time for Fouts, who has all the records any National Football League player can hope to have, to bare his soul.

No matter what his accomplishments, Fouts never heaps praise upon himself. Always, he credits his offensive line for the protection these huge men afford him. Or his receivers—Wes Chandler, Kellen Winslow and Charlie Joiner. And, on this day in Miami, he walked up to each of them, thanking them.

All seemed normal until he reached Ed White's locker. White, the 36-year-old guard, clad only in a towel that looked like a washcloth, dejectedly sat smoking a cigarette. Fouts walked up to him, grabbed the aging blocker around the neck and buried his face into a huge shoulder, just as a child might if he knew he had done something wrong. It was a brief interlude, for Fouts quickly regained his composure, wiped his face with a towel, said a few words to White and walked away.

"That's Dan," White said later. "We feel Dan is one of us. We feel he is an offensive lineman. And we feel very badly for Dan right now because of that. He is as great a man as he is a quarterback."

But it seems that we know much more about Dan Fouts the most prolific passer of his generation than we do of Dan Fouts the man. The emotional incident just described is one of the facets of this complex man. Fouts is not shallow, but he is such a private individual that there are times that he comes off that way.

Here is a man who voted not to strike, who is dead set against the ways of Ed Garvey, executive director of the players union. Yet when the strike finally came, there was Fouts, out every day, organizing and running the practice sessions.

And there are times when he is not enamored with the media, when even the simplest question or statement will upset him. Yet rare is the day when he refuses an interview. That he is the leader of his team is without question. Yet this man, a hero from September through January, hardly is a community leader, despite being such a large presence on the one team in town that the populace worships.

Dan Fouts should be a god in San Diego. But, by his own choosing, he isn't. At the close of each season, Fouts packs his bags, grabs wife Julianne, son Dominic and daughter Suzanne, and heads for Indian Ford, Ore., out in the middle of nowhere. It's a country where there are cords to be chopped and streams to be fished. Where a picket fence fends off the outside world. No beer commercials for Dan Fouts in the wilds of Oregon, not even any stints for local car dealers. The off-season profile is low.

"Maybe it's because I never had a high profile when I started," says Fouts, who labored in San Diego for five seasons (1973-78) before he started putting big numbers up and the Chargers began winning under Coach Don Coryell. "I didn't start with a high profile, so I

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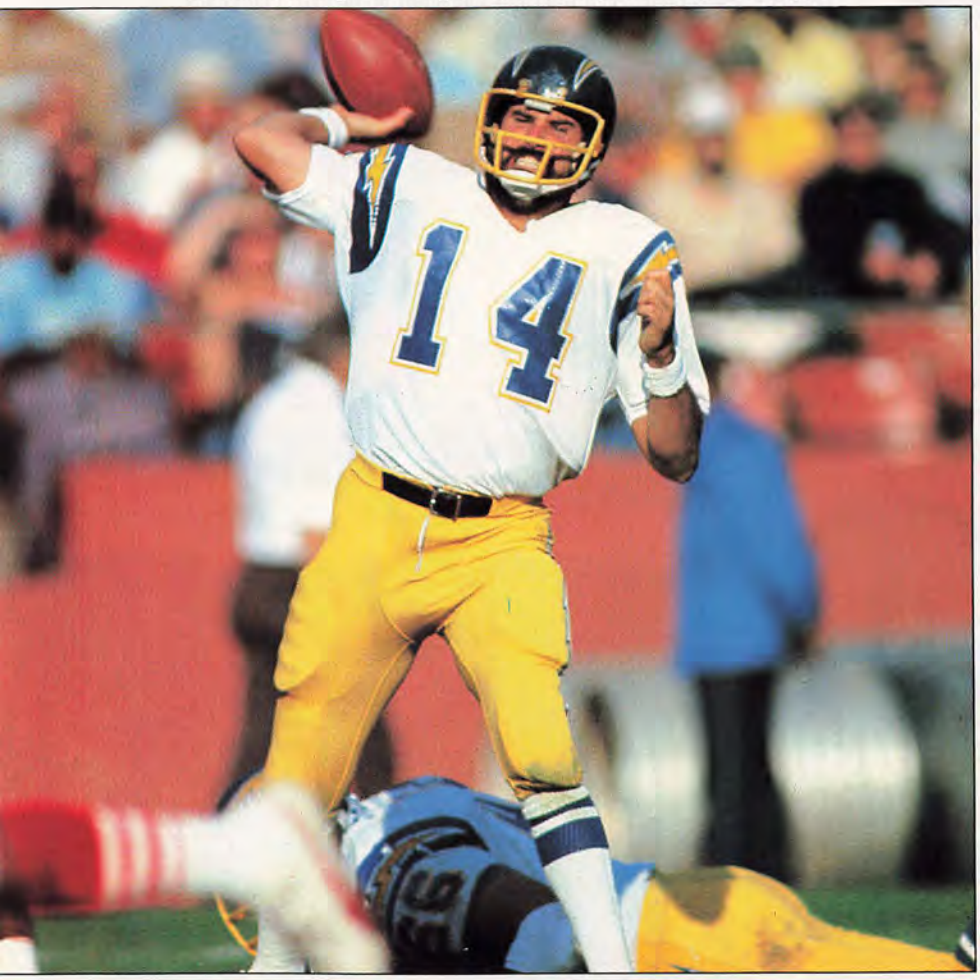
Dan Fouts averages throwing one touchdown pass in every 22 attempts.



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"Come to think of it, I'll have a Heineken."

(Fouts continued)

guess there's no need for one now. I never strived for a high profile. If I've had any success, it's because of the team.

"I can do whatever I want to do in Oregon," he says. "I'm involved with Nike, which is an Oregon-based company. That keeps me busy. I do some rubber chicken banquets, but I try to limit them to one a week or so. I like to be home most of the time. In the off-season, I try to devote most of my time to my family."

Perhaps it's because Fouts realizes that once the season begins, there can be little family life. The man does get wrapped up in his work. Running the Charger offense, as exacting as that is, has to be a full-time job. And it is one that has paid off.

Not long after the past season ended, Fouts became a free agent. In the NFL, that means that if another team had signed him, it would have had to give San Diego two first-round draft choices. It is an option many teams are understandably reluctant to take.

When Fouts signed his contract, he undoubtedly became the highest-paid athlete in NFL history. Perhaps he isn't the league's first million-dollar-a-year performer, but he won't miss it by much. Neither his salary nor the length of the new contract was revealed. An educated guess was just shy of a million per year over a five-year period.

The San Diego quarterback's tough agent is Howard Slusher. Fouts signed after negotiations between Ed Hookstratten, well-known Los Angeles attorney acting for Chargers' Owner Gene Klein, and Slusher a few days before the late-April draft. Hookstratten also was the representative for John Robinson, new coach of the Los Angeles Rams.

Klein had no desire to negotiate with Slusher, who is also John Jefferson's agent. It was Slusher who, in attempting to renegotiate Jefferson's Charger contract in 1981, got the wide receiver traded to Green Bay. Klein obviously is a man who does not enjoy being pressured.

Of course, in Fouts' case, his contract expired. Klein had always said, "I'm convinced that we want Dan Fouts, without question. I'm also convinced that Dan Fouts wants to stay here."

Fouts had leverage. The 1982 season was cracked in half by the 57-day players' strike, but he enjoyed perhaps his finest year—"The greatest year I've ever seen a quarterback have," says Fran Tarkenton, former Minnesota-New York Giant quarterback.

In nine games, Fouts completed 204 of 330 passes for 2,883 yards and 17 touchdowns. The offense he ran compiled 4,048 yards in those nine games. Projected over a 16-game season, the offense would have totaled a staggering 7,207 yards.

Fouts' statistical profile seemingly is endless. In back-to-back games in 1982, versus San Francisco and Cincinnati, the 1982 Super Bowl finalists, Fouts became the first man in NFL history to pass for more than 400 yards on consecutive weekends.

In Fouts' 10-year career, the 32-year-old quarterback has passed for 27,145 yards, most of it coming after Coryell took over. Since 1978—five seasons—he has passed for 19,487 yards. No quarterback in history can approach those figures over that length of time.

Still, there are those who believe Fouts to be a product of the Coryell system, that he wouldn't be as effective working on another team. Perhaps not, but with his recent Pro Bowl effort—17 completions in 30 attempts for 274 yards—that theory may not wash.

There also is the theory that any great quarterback can step into the San Diego offense and do similar work. That, too, may not wash. "What looks like a good throw is just good coordination between the quarterback and receivers—and being given time to throw," Fouts says. "I can't emphasize that enough."

Fouts' aim is not records and awards but a diamond-studded Super Bowl ring.

The San Diego passing game is unique in that it is based on timing, reading and execution. It is up to the receivers to read a coverage, because Fouts is going to. He expects his targets to be in specific locations. In the huddle, routes are given, not primary receivers. And Fouts is a three-step, five-step thrower.

There are those who believe that San Diego would have been dead in the water without Fouts. The last time he didn't play a down for the Chargers was back in 1978. Kansas City shut out San Diego then 23-0.

During his red-hot period following the strike, Fouts was asked if he ever feels that he is "on" at one time and "off" on others. His reply: "When I have the protection, I'm on." Against Miami in the playoffs, the protection wasn't there, and the passing machine was turned off. Nor was there a total team effort. San Diego's special teams fell apart, and other mistakes allowed the Dolphins to race to a 24-0 advantage. All along, the Chargers thought Miami to be more vulnerable against the run than the pass (as Washington proved in Super Bowl XVII), but because of the huge deficit, Fouts was forced to pass more than he wanted to. A rout resulted.

"No, I don't think our offense played well that day, but we never had a chance to get our rhythm going," says Fouts. "We never got any momentum built up. We are a momentum offense, built upon success. We call it the snowball—the big wheel. We're a high-pressure offense. We thrive on it."

Whatever they call it, that offense—great as it is—has not allowed Fouts to accomplish the one great goal remaining in his athletic life: the Super Bowl. To him, records and awards are nice but things to look back on once you retire. Fouts worries about now, this moment, and he wonders how many chances he will get at his ultimate trophy, the one that fits on his finger.

"It's nice to be singled out," he says, "but it's not like shooting a 59 on the old golf course. It's all a team thing. Failing to make the Super Bowl is a team disappointment."

The past two seasons, defense has been San Diego's big problem. Charger games have turned into shooting matches. Because the offense is so strong, the club has been capable of prevailing on most occasions. But once it gets to the playoffs, where the finer defensive clubs usually end up, it's a different matter. Hence, the disappointment.

It's ironic almost. The problem is defense—a problem most teams have when they go up against Dan Fouts.

END

SAN FRANCISCO

It wasn't Ronnie Lott's fault the 49ers took a post-Super Bowl tumble in 1982. And in all probability, it will not be his fault if they don't right themselves and return to the playoffs this season.

A defensive decline went hand-in-hand with San Francisco's fall from 16-3 to 3-6. But there was Lott, living up to his rookie superlatives of the previous year, leading the team in individual tackles (51) and in passes defensed (18), forcing one fumble and intercepting two passes, one of which he returned 83 yards for a touchdown.

"He was a model of consistency," says Coach Bill Walsh, who is expecting the third-year star cornerback out of Southern California to spark a 49er resurgence.

"I think I'd like to have played in the Sixties, when football was rougher and tougher. The player I remember was Pat Fischer (of the Redskins)."

For the last two seasons, Lott has been the leader in the secondary, the team's big-play man. But that is no surprise to the man who drafted him in the first round.

"He may be the best athlete we have," Walsh said after making Lott the eighth player selected in the opening round of the 1981 draft. "He will certainly be All-Pro before too long—maybe in his first season—and he could be the Defensive Rookie of the Year."

It was close. As the 49ers rushed to the world championship in 1981, Lott pushed linebacker Lawrence Taylor of the Giants for defensive rookie honors. Lott had 89 tackles and seven interceptions. He ran back three for touchdowns, becoming the only rookie other than Lem Barney of the '67 Lions to accomplish the feat.

"Lott set the tone for San Francisco's great season," said Coach Chuck Noll of the Steelers, a coach not known for gushing. In the eyes of Walsh, the first-year All-Pro was "a dynamic player, an outstanding leader, the consummate, ever-improving performer."

Lott's coach in college, John Robinson, won't enjoy playing against the former Trojan when the 49ers face Robinson's Los Angeles Rams. "Ronnie is the kind of guy you can count on," says Robinson, "whether it's football, war or business."

A safety at USC, Lott was shifted by the 49ers to cornerback, where he was asked to cover superior receivers.

Why didn't Robinson play him at corner? "Our opponents would have loved it," Robinson says. "They'd simply run, or pass, to the other side. We'd have lost him from our defense. We wanted him near the ball at all times."

Lott echoes those sentiments. He likes to be near the ball. He enjoys contact.

"If you put me in a mold," he says, "I think I'd like to have played in the Sixties, when football was rougher and tougher. The player I remember was Pat Fischer (of the Redskins). I remember him for his toughness, the way he hit. With his size (5-7), he had to have a lot upstairs to play the way he did. And he played for years."

Lott comes in a larger size—6-0, 200 pounds. Even though he is at an exposed position, where most players are worried about getting burned and therefore lay back, Lott never has lost his aggressive instincts.

When the 49ers began the '81 season with three rookies (Lott, Eric Wright and Carlton Williamson) and one third-year man (Dwight Hicks) in the secondary, Walsh told them they would make mistakes but not to worry.

"That gave us confidence," says Lott. In the second preseason game, he says, "We stopped being timid, began to use our physical attributes and started to take chances."

San Francisco was on its way.

The 49ers could be on their way again in '83. In a year when four starters were lost to knee surgery, the six losses were by one point, three points (two times), four, five and 10 points.

Walsh needed help at running back and got it. He acquired Wendell Tyler of the Rams in a trade, then drafted Roger Craig of Nebraska with his first choice. The

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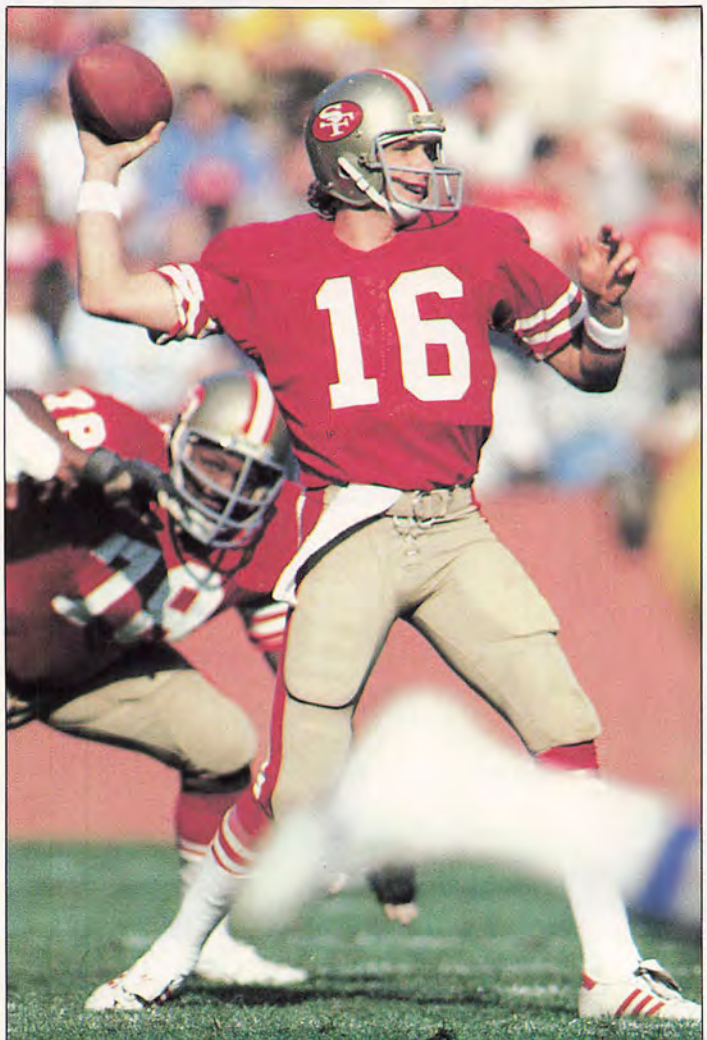
End Lawrence Pillers, a seven-year veteran, is a pillar in the 49ers' defense.

BIKE



The post-Super Bowl syndrome got the 49ers in '82, but Bill Ring (top) averaged 3.8 yards rushing, and Joe Montana completed 61 percent of his passes.

(San Francisco continued)

longest run from scrimmage was 21 yards and that was by Joe Montana. At quarterback, Montana more than held his own, passing for 300 yards in five straight games, completing 61 percent of his throws and throwing for 17 touchdowns, tying for the NFL lead.

It's Walsh's feeling the 49ers do not need any drastic moves to reverse gears. Two trades will be reappraised. Last year the 49ers gave up top draft picks to New England for tight end Russ Francis, who wound up splitting time with Charle Young because of a bad back. It was an unhappy situation. Francis has reconsidered leaving football. Young is not expected to return, leaving the position in Francis' hands.

"We also suffered from championship fallout, the syndrome where you think you're working as hard in preparing for the defense of the title but you really aren't."

In 1982, Walsh also turned two No. 2 picks into one No. 2, which he used to draft offensive tackle Bubba Paris. An early-season knee injury knocked him out of action. Walsh feels that if Francis and Paris contribute as expected, it will go a long way to restoring 49er fortunes.

Walsh will have to pay particular attention to the defense. Sacks went from a total of 36 in the Super Bowl year to 15. Up front end Dwaine Board's knee injury was a blow, and at linebacker everyone except Keena Turner had an off-year.

"We certainly can't blame the season on the injury factor," says Walsh. "We had time, like everyone else, during the strike to get healthy and we did, to a point, but we never put together continuity on offense or defense. And injuries did play a part in that.

"We also suffered from championship fallout, the syndrome where you think you're working as hard in preparing for the defense of the title but you really aren't. You are lulled into a comfort zone, thinking you can turn it on when you have to. You just don't maintain the needed edge.

"We simply can't blame the players for all this. I have a responsibility and so do our coaches. We were competitive in every game. We know the effort was there, so we're not going to overreact and threaten to end the careers of some of the players. We have the energy and the formula it takes to be a championship football organization."

Particularly crushing was the season-ending loss to the Rams, a defeat that seemed to characterize the year. "This is a horrible experience, a humiliating personal experience,"

(continued on page 64)

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TOUGH

Keith Dorney learned to be tough to survive. That lesson helped him become an All-America tackle at Penn State and more recently a Pro Bowling offensive lineman for the Detroit Lions.

His size, speed, grit and intelligence also contributed to his success.

But Dorney's toughness and strength are the hallmarks of this 6-5, 265-pound muscleman of the ever-improving Lions in the so-even Central Division of the National Conference of the NFL.

In 1980, Dorney's second year with Detroit, in the sixth game of the season against New Orleans in the Silverdome, he was involved in pass blocking.

"A linebacker landed on my left leg," he says. "My knee hurt and my ankle hurt. Bad. I got off the field. I thought I had a sprain. They taped me up. I played the rest of the game. We won (24-13). Afterward, they found I had pulled a ligament off my femur. It was serious. I had badly sprained my ankle and completely blown out my knee. I went into surgery quickly."

"His recovery in 1980 was a tribute to his spirit and desire. What a credit he is to this game. What a strong, tough guy he is."

The operation was serious but so was Dorney about his return to duty.

Those 1980 Lions were 5-1 when Dorney underwent the operation. They were the toast of the NFL. With Dorney gone, they lost six of their next eight games. Perhaps that hurried his recovery. Remarkably, this durable athlete returned to the lineup as a starter in the final two games of the 1980 season. The Lions won both. Thus, with Dorney, Detroit in 1980 was 7-1; without him, they were 2-6. He hasn't missed a game since. In 1981, the Lions were second in their division. They made the playoffs in the bobtailed 1982 season for the first time since 1970.

"One reason for our progress has been Keith Dorney," says Coach Monte Clark. "His recovery in 1980 was a tribute to his spirit and desire. What a credit he is to this game. What a strong, tough guy he is."

"I had to be tough back in Macungie just to survive," jokes Dorney.

Where?

"Macungie, Pa., my hometown. It's a small place (pop. 1,414) outside of Allentown, an hour north of Philadelphia, hard on the New Jersey border. The area around there has produced plenty of pro athletes—Mike Guman (running back) of the Rams, John Spagnola (tight end) of the Eagles, Mike Hartenstine (defensive end) of the Bears, and Matt Millen (linebacker) of the Raiders.

"Macungie is a great place—small, woodsy, streams. We climbed Macungie Mountain and we fished and swam in Swabia Creek. It's an Indian name, Macungie is. In my first couple of years with the Lions, they had Allentown as my home town in the press guide. I made 'em change it. I'm proud of my place and they're proud of me. I played on the Macungie Bears of the Little League there. I went to Emmaus High School."

Where?

"Emmaus, a biblical term. It's a town in Israel near Jerusalem, a scene of Christ's revelation of Himself after His resurrection. Lots of towns near Macungie are named for biblical towns, like Mario Andretti's home, Nazareth, and, of course, Bethlehem.

"Most of the people in my town worked in the Mack Truck Company. Blue-collar people were everywhere, so everybody was a pro football fan, mostly for the Eagles, of course, and Penn State. My mom went to Penn State.

"Everybody was bigger than me, believe it or not. I had to snap the football. I got all the bad jobs, so I had to learn to be tough. It put a chip on my shoulder. I decided to get big and strong and get even."

Dorney took up weight lifting and running, on the road to Emmaus High, where he became a blue-chip lineman, and then to Penn State, where he was an All-American in 1978.

At Penn State, Dorney went into that program that has produced several

(continued)

Nobody appreciates this man, tackle Keith Dorney, more than Billy Sims, who averages 1000 yards-plus per season.

HOLLOWAY

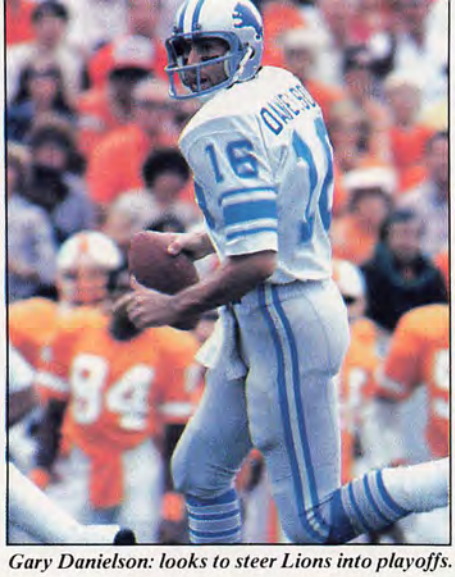
(Detroit continued)

successful offensive linemen. He was Detroit's No. 1 pick in 1979. In the spring of 1982, Mike Munchak was the No. 1 pick of Houston and Sean Farrell the first pick of the Tampa Bay Bucs. Both were offensive linemen at Penn State.

"I was at Penn State during good times," Dorney says. "In my last two years, we were 22-2. We blew the last game and the national championship, remember, to Alabama in the Sugar Bowl. Barry Krauss made the stop at the goal line (a head-on, knock-out tackle of Guman) that kept us from scoring and winning. It was a tremendous disappointment, of course. Penn State was a great place to go to school. Dick Anderson, the offensive line coach, taught us so much.

"I have to be ready to try to block the tough ones for me, like Jack Youngblood, Mike Butler and Mark Gastineau."

"I wanted to play with the Eagles, but when the Lions took me first, as the first offensive lineman to be drafted, it gave me a tremendous thrill and challenge. I wanted to prove to the Lions that they didn't make a mistake."



Gary Danielson: looks to steer Lions into playoffs.

They didn't. Dorney won a starting job as a rookie in 1979 and started every game until the injury in the sixth game of the 1980 season.

"We got blown away in my first game in '79 by Tampa Bay," Dorney says. "That was tough for me. We had a terrible year—2-14. I look back on it and I can see that that kind of a season didn't bother me as much as it would now. I was still in awe of being in the NFL. I was so motivated personally. The only thing was we were losing so much I couldn't evaluate myself.

Others did. He was on the All-Rookie team.

Dorney improved and reached the Pro Bowl last season. Many see All-Pro down the line for Dorney, who is just as motivated now as when he was a rookie. He works out regularly in the off-season at his new home in San Juan Capistrano, Calif., having given up Allentown and Macungie for the surfside lifestyle.

"I love this living," he says. "I do a lot of body surfing and scuba diving for lobster and abalone. But I never let myself get out of shape. Pro ball and the Lions mean too much to me for that. I have to be ready to try to block the tough ones for me, like Jack Youngblood, Mike Butler and Mark Gastineau."

This extraordinary lineman, though entering only his fifth season, anchors an offensive front that is getting better and better. With quarterback Gary Danielson, satisfied with a new contract, working behind it, and with the fancy footwork of running back Billy Sims, not much is lacking offensively. Wide receiver help would be welcome.

Defensively, the Silver Rush is solid and respected. The secondary needs patching.

Last year's breakthrough to playoff status, won at the last moment when there seemed to be no chance, should give the Lions confidence they seem to have lacked. They should be challengers for the Central Division championship.

In the words of the strong man from Macungie: "I think we are ready to mature and take that extra step that will get us into the playoffs again, and beyond."

Perhaps then Dorney's hometown will name a street after him. How about Dorney Drive?

END

With 35 touchdowns in three seasons, Sims needs only three more to equal the Lions' club career record.

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RAMS

In one fell swoop, Georgia Frontiere may have turned the Los Angeles-Anaheim Rams around.

She did it by sending her fans a valentine. She announced on Feb. 14 that 47-year-old John Robinson, who had stepped out two-and-a-half months before as Southern California coach, would be stepping in to run her football operation.

The Rams were hurting for more than one reason. Not only were they coming off 6-10 and 2-7 seasons, but they were also being challenged in the Tinsel Town area by the more successful Raiders.

Suddenly, by hiring Robinson, the Rams seemed to go a long way to restore credibility to a franchise in need of it.

For Robinson, it was a broken-field run. When he bowed out as coach of the Trojans, he said he was ready for a change, adding, "There are a lot of things I'm interested in outside of athletics."

"We wanted someone who would give us instant credibility and be a fine coach. I think we got both. Georgia deserves the credit. She's the one who contacted John and negotiated with him."

He was functioning as a USC fund raiser when Georgia came calling. When Madame Ram came up with a reported $1.7 million five-year contract, Robinson had second thoughts. "I thought I wanted to be out of coaching, but I think the environment with the Rams is something I want to be involved in," he said.

While money was an obvious consideration, there was also the yearning to return to the world of X's and O's. Robinson went to a Raiders' playoff game, walked on the field at Los Angeles Coliseum and said to himself, "Damn, I do miss it."

"Coaching football," says Robinson, "is something that was always on my mind. Then came the time when I wasn't directly involved, and I got to sit at home and watch. You go through the playoffs and Super Bowl and you're hooked. I sat there and stared at that TV for a month straight. I was fascinated."

So were the Rams. The man who brought the coach and the team together was anything but a rookie. Attorney-agent Ed Hookstratten had previously engineered contracts for George Allen (Redskins), John McKay (Buccaneers), Dick Vermeil (Eagles), Ted Marchibroda (Colts), Bud Grant (Vikings) and Jack Pardee (Bears).

"Give Georgia credit," says Hookstratten. "She was very generous. She was a real doll. She did everything right. Carroll (Rosenbloom, her late husband and former Ram owner) couldn't have done better."

From all accounts, it was the most exciting thing to happen to the Rams since the move to Anaheim. In seven years at Southern Cal, Robinson posted a record of 67-14-2, a winning percentage of .819. That included a 28-game unbeaten string, a national championship (1978) and Coach of the Year (1979).

"We feel he's the perfect choice," says Ram Vice President Ray Nagel. "We wanted someone who would give us instant credibility and be a fine coach. I think we got both. Georgia deserves the credit. She's the one who contacted John and negotiated with him. I could tell she was thinking about him as we talked about all these other coaches. She always came back to him. He was the only person actually offered the job."

As for Robinson, he is happy not to have to worry with recruiting, a thorn in the side of many college coaches.

"I think the college coach nowadays is forced to spend less and less time with football each year," says Robinson. "He's more like a chairman of the board. It's different in pro football. Another thing is, in the pros, we all have an equal chance. Some might say the same applies to college football but try telling that to the guy coaching Oregon State or Oregon. At USC, we were able to create a mystique. Now our job will be to create a Ram mystique."

Robinson is convinced the Rams can regroup. And win.

"I feel I made an intelligent evaluation of the situation," he says. "I have great

(continued)

After Bert Jones (in civvies) was injured, Vince Ferragamo played so well he was named the Rams' MVP. Jones retired in late May after doctors warned him that another blow to his neck could lead to paralysis.

RAMS

←*Defensive end Jack Youngblood, oldest Ram in point of service, gets set for his 13th season.*

(Los Angeles Rams continued)

respect for Ray Nagel. We have good players. I think we'll be a quality team this year. I refuse to accept the idea we may not do well. I can coach and communicate with people. I can help discipline and motivate. I will make this group determined to be successful.

"I don't feel he'll have any problem adjusting. There's no doubt he can win immediately."

"My presence isn't going to make us win, though. You've got to be physical. Teams don't get to the Super Bowl unless they're physical. Your best example would be the Redskins. You hardly would call them a finesse team They won mostly with physical exertion. The Raiders were successful for the same reason. I think we can be very solid. History shows NFL teams have faltered and come back. I believe we have a desire to win from Mrs. Frontiere on down."

Last season's Rams, coached by Ray Malavasi, were a team notorious for jumping into a big lead, then blowing it. However, they ended the season on a different note, falling behind the 49ers 20-7 then coming on to win 21-20 when Ivory Sully blocked a field goal try late in the game.

Robinson's major tasks will be shoring up a defense that is aging at spots and developing a more consistent running game. Vince Ferragamo, who took over as starting quarterback after Bert Jones was injured, finished impressively. When Jones retired, it made one of Robinson's decisions, that of picking the No. 1 quarterback, easy.

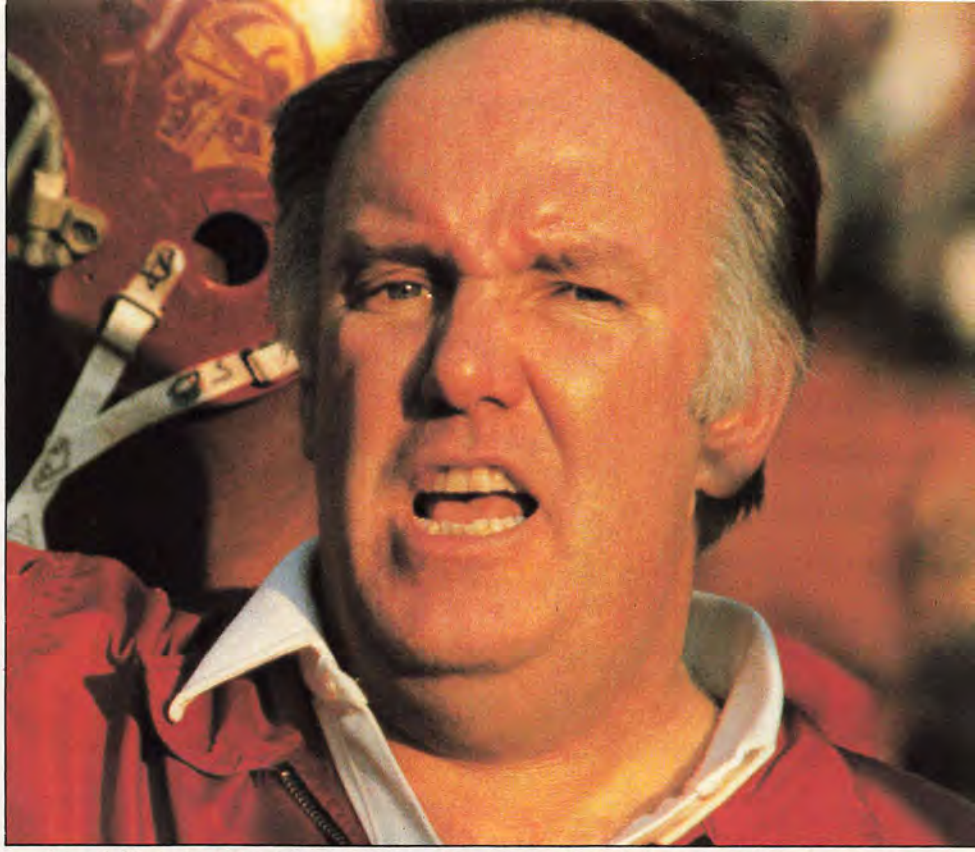
Robinson's decision to get back into the pressure cooker didn't surprise John Madden, lifelong friend and former coach of the Raiders.

"I told him he wouldn't be able to stay away," says Madden. "John and I went to grammar school together. We were like brothers. He was best man at my wedding. He's still my best friend. You take a guy who started playing football in the streets, who stayed with it, and football becomes his life. You can't walk away. He's an excellent football man. When I became head coach of the Raiders, I tried every year to hire him and finally did get him for one year."

Player reaction has been positive. "His reputation precedes him," says defensive end Jack Youngblood, a 12-year veteran. "I don't feel he'll have any problem adjusting. There's no doubt he can win immediately. We have a good nucleus of veterans and some excellent young players."

Eight-year veteran Cody Jones says, "We had a lot of problems last season. Training camp should be interesting. It will be like going to rookie camp."

Incidentally, among this year's rookies due for plenty of attention is running back Eric Dickerson, SMU's 1982 All-American, picked No. 2 in the draft.



An enviable contract coupled with his love of coaching enabled the Rams to get John Robinson.

Offensive guard Bill Bain, who remembers Robinson from his days at USC, says, "If you can't get psyched for him, you can't get psyched. He's an emotional man who gets after you."

Free safety Nolan Cromwell likes the idea of Robinson's winning tradition. "He has the type of positive attitude we need to get the excited attitude back," says Cromwell.

After Frontiere had interviewed one coach who subsequently took another job, Hookstratten told Frontiere, "You should hire John Robinson."

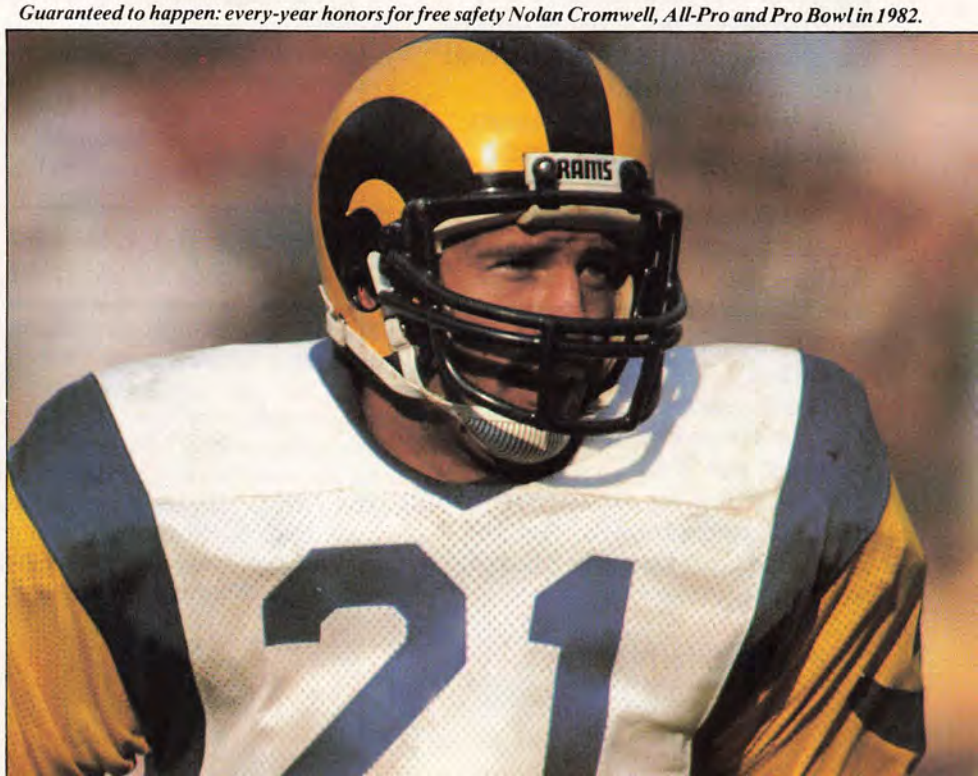
"I'd like to, but he says he doesn't want to coach football any more," said Georgia.

"Don't worry, I'll get him for you," promised the attorney.

He did. And the Rams figure to be back in business.

END

Guaranteed to happen: every-year honors for free safety Nolan Cromwell, All-Pro and Pro Bowl in 1982.



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The 1983 Draft
Good Year for Quarterbacks

by John Owen

It was 5 in the morning when John Elway's name was first mentioned over the television set in his California home, and that was only fitting. Because his status kept most of the nation in the dark for a couple of weeks.

Every forecast advanced before the NFL draft hedged on whether the superb Stanford quarterback would play in Baltimore, San Diego or possibly in Los Angeles (a week later, the Colts traded him to Denver). Observers couldn't even guess whether the sport he would play might be football, baseball or cricket. But his name was mentioned at 5 a.m. (PDT), and it was repeated with some frequency until the draft ended 17 hours and 57 minutes later.

Truly, it was the Year of the Quarterback. Five teams in addition to Baltimore picked passers in the opening round. On a couple of other occasions, as many as four quarterbacks had been picked in the first go-round, but 1983 was a unique year in a lot of respects.

The return of the one-day draft was blamed on the U.S. Football League and the possibility that the new league might sign disappointed players who had not been selected by the first dusk of a two-day draft. By the middle rounds, NFL executives were guesstimating the staying power of the new league and the few drafted athletes already on USFL rosters.

However, Elway's draft-day threat to ignore the sport which had placed him in such prominence was not even unique, football historians disclosed. First player drafted in the initial NFL cattle auction, in 1936, was Heisman Trophy winner Jay Berwanger. He didn't particularly want to play in Chicago for the salary the Bears offered. He said he just might enter the business world straight out of college.

And he did.

Few of the 335 athletes drafted this year seemed anxious to emulate Berwanger.

By the time John Tuggle's (No. 335 and the last man chosen) name had been pronounced by the New York Giants at 1:57 a.m. (EDT) on draft day, San Diego had been declared the unofficial winner of the annual lottery. Three of the first 22 players selected went to the Chargers.

Twenty-four hours before the draft, it had appeared that the Chargers might be willing to swap all of them in exchange for Elway.

NFC EAST

Dallas—The Cowboys sometimes round up a few mavericks in the annual collegiate cattle drive, but this time Tom Landry's needs were obvious. At 32, defensive ends Ed "Too Tall" Jones and Harvey "Too Mean" Martin will soon be Too Old. Potential replacements were found in another southwest corral. With their picks in the first and third rounds, the Cowboys selected Arizona State teammates Jim Jeffcoat and Bryan Caldwell. Jeffcoat is an explosive pass rusher and is given an excellent chance of sticking with Dallas. Caldwell is a willing worker and a late bloomer.

Landry also needs help at outside linebacker since Guy Brown's career apparently ended when he suffered a neck injury against Minnesota late last season. The Cowboys picked up lightly regarded Mike Walter from Oregon, who will have to make the switch to outside linebacker from the defensive end position he played with the Ducks.

NAME-POS-SCHOOL	RD	PICK	SEQ
Jim Jeffcoat, de, Arizona State	1	23	23
Mike Walter, de, Oregon	2	22	50
Bryan Caldwell, de, Arizona State	3	21	77
Chris Faulkner, te, Florida	4	24	108
Chuck McSwain, rb, Clemson	5	23	135
Reggie Collier, qb, Southern Miss	6	22	162
Chris Schultz, ot, Arizona	7	21	189
Lawrence Ricks, rb, Michigan	8	24	220
Al Gross, db, Arizona	9	23	246
Eric Moran, ot, Washington	10	22	273
Dan Taylor, ol, Idaho State	11	21	300
Lorenzo Bouier, rb, Maine	12	24	331

New York Giants—Senior Bowl star Terry Kinard of Clemson has a "can't miss" label and his acquisition will put the pressure of competition on Beasley Reece, Giant holdover and '82 player rep. But Kinard has the speed and agility to play anywhere in the defensive backfield.

The Giants understandably were unable to overlook 270-pound defensive tackle Leonard Marshall and picked him out of LSU before drafting the offensive linemen everybody said they needed, third-round choices Karl Nelson of Iowa State and Nebraska tight end Jamie Williams.

NAME-POS-SCHOOL	RD	PICK	SEQ
Terry Kinard, db, Clemson	1	10	10
Leonard Marshall, dt, Louisiana St.	2	9	37
Jamie Williams, te, Nebraksa	3	7	63
Trade from San Francisco thru L.A. Rams			
Karl Nelson, ot, Iowa State	3	14	70
Malcolm Scott, te, Louisiana State	5	12	124
Darrell Patterson, lb, Texas Christian	6	11	151
Kevin Belcher, og, Texas (El Paso)	6	13	153
Trade from Buffalo thru L.A. Rams			
Perry Williams, db, NC State	7	10	178
Andy Headen, lb, Clemson	8	9	205
Ali Haji-Sheikh, k, Michigan	9	14	237
Lee Jenkins, db, Tennessee	11	2	281
Trade from Houston			
Clenzie Pierson, dt, Rice	11	12	291
Robbie Jones, lb, Alabama	12	2	309
Trade from Houston			
Frank Magwood, wr, Clemson	12	11	318
John Tuggle, rb, California	12	28	335
Trade from Washington			

Philadelphia—New Coach Marion Campbell has a lot of needs and drafted players at four different positions in the first three rounds. Top choice Michael Haddix of Mississippi State is listed as a halfback but might also be able to block for veteran Wilbert Montgomery.

The Eagles drafted four wide receivers and two tight ends a year earlier, but, still seeking a pass catcher with speed, they grabbed Glen Young. He's a 9.5 sprinter, although a gamble after coming out of State's wishbone offense.

NAME-POS-SCHOOL	RD	PICK	SEQ
Michael Haddix, rb, Mississippi St.	1	8	8
Wes Hopkins, db, SMU	2	7	35
Jody Schulz, lb, East Carolina	2	18	46
Trade from Minnesota			
Glen Young, wr, Mississippi St.	3	6	62
Mike Williams, rb, Mississippi Col.	4	5	89
Byron Darby, dt, Southern Cal	5	8	120
Victor Oatis, wr, Northwestern La.	6	7	147
Anthony Edgar, rb, Hawaii	7	6	174
Jon Schultheis, og, Princeton	7	14	182
Trade from Cleveland			
Rick Kraynak, lb, Pittsburgh	8	5	201
Rich Pelzer, ot, Rhode Island	9	8	232
Thomas Strauthers, de, Jackson St.	10	7	258
Steve Sebahar, c, Washington St.	11	6	285
David Mangrum, qb, Baylor	12	5	312

St. Louis—Seeking a replacement for former All-Pro Roger Wehrli who retired, the Cardinals went for defensive backs Leonard Smith of McNeese State and Cedric Mack of Baylor. Mack was beaten deep on some critical plays during his college career. Smith hardly ever was but is making a big step up in class.

Third-round pick Ramsey Dardar may prove to be a winning gamble despite his 6-1½-inch size. His quickness may overcome this one handicap.

NAME-POS-SCHOOL	RD	PICK	SEQ
Leonard Smith, db, McNeese State	1	17	17
Cedric Mack, db, Baylor	2	16	44
Ramsey Dardar, dt, Louisiana St.	3	15	71
Mark Duda, dt, Maryland	4	12	96
Trade from Seattle			
Lionel Washington, db, Tulane	4	19	103
Steve Bird, wr, Eastern Kentucky	5	18	130
George Schmitt, db, Delaware	6	17	157
Carlos Scott, c, Texas (El Paso)	7	16	184
Bob Harris, db, Auburn	8	15	211
Otis Brown, rb, Jackson St.	9	19	242
Tim Lucas, lb, California	10	18	269
Aaron Williams, wr, Washington	11	17	296
James Lane, lb, Alabama State	12	16	323

(continued)

(Pro Draft continued)

Washington—No, the Redskins haven't boycotted the draft. But they had no first-round selection last year, and in previous seasons George Allen was inclined to trade his future for a win next Sunday.

This time Washington got to draft (last) and the Super Bowl champions seemed to be listening to their defensive coordinator. "I'd like to have two more like Vernon Dean," Richie Petitbon said in reference to the Skins' '82 rookie star. Well, Darrell Green rhymes with Dean, but instead of being a dominant hitter the Texas A&I product with world-class speed is barely 5-9. Second-round pick Richard Williams of Memphis State is also small for a fullback but could surprise if a questionable knee holds up.

NAME-POS-SCHOOL	RD	PICK	SEQ
Darrell Green, db, Texas A&I	1	28	28
Richard Williams, rb, Memphis State	2	28	56
Charles Mann, de, Nevada (Reno)	3	28	84
Bob Winckler, ot, Wisconsin	6	26	166
Trade from Los Angeles Raiders			
Babe Laufenberg, qb, Indiana	6	28	168
Kelvin Bryant, rb, North Carolina	7	28	196
Todd Hallstrom, ot, Minnesota	8	28	224
Marcus Gilbert, rb, Texas Christian	9	28	251
Geff Gandy, lb, Baylor	10	28	279

NFC CENTRAL

Chicago—Coach Mike Ditka vowed he'd find better protection for quarterback Jim McMahon either by drafting a top offensive lineman or by finding a receiver with blinding speed.

With a pair of first-round picks, the Bears were able to do both. Injuries last year to Dennis Lick and Ted Albrecht made it imperative Chicago find somebody in the mold of 6-4, 280-pound Jimbo Covert of Pittsburgh, who is versatile and overpowering. In Tennessee's Willie Gault, the Bears got a wide receiver with few peers among the world's Olympic-class sprinters. Although the Bears wanted a cornerback, their second-round pick of Arizona State's Mike Richardson was somewhat surprising since he's rated strictly a safety.

NAME-POS-SCHOOL	RD	PICK	SEQ
Jimbo Covert, ot, Pittsburgh	1	6	6
Willie Gault, wr, Tennessee	1	18	18
Trade from Tampa Bay			
Mike Richardson, db, Arizona State	2	5	33
Dave Duerson, db, Notre Dame	3	8	64
Tom Thayer, c, Notre Dame	4	7	91
Pat Dunsmore, te, Drake	4	23	107
Trade from San Diego			
Richard Dent, de, Tennessee State	8	7	203
Mark Bortz, dt, Iowa	8	23	219
Trade from San Diego			
Rob Fada, og, Pittsburgh	9	6	230
Mark Zavagnin, lb, Notre Dame	9	12	235
Trade from Cleveland thru San Francisco			
Tony Hutchinson, rb, Texas Tech	10	5	256
Gary Worthy, rb, Wilmington	11	8	286
Oliver Williams, wr, Illinois	12	6	313
Trade from San Francisco			

Detroit—So thin were the Lions at fullback last year that they occasionally moved tight end David Hill into the backfield to supply blocking. They hope Florida fullback James Jones can fill this need immediately. He is a superb blocker, a durable runner, a fine receiver and occasionally he'll throw an option pass.

Overlooking other needs, the Lions apparently tabbed Michigan offensive tackle Rich Strenger as "best athlete available" on the second round despite a knee injury suffered in the Rose Bowl.

NAME-POS-SCHOOL	RD	PICK	SEQ
James Jones, fb, Florida	1	13	13
Rich Strenger, ot, Michigan	2	12	40
Mike Cofer, de, Tennessee	3	11	67
August Curley, lb, Southern Cal	4	10	94
Demetrious Johnson, db, Missouri	5	3	115
Trade from Los Angeles Rams			
Steve Mott, c, Alabama	5	9	121
Todd Brown, wr, Nebraska	6	14	154
Mike Black, p, Arizona State	7	13	181
Bill Stapleton, db, Washington	8	12	208
Used in supplementary draft . (Kevin Robinson)	9	11	
Dave Laube, ol, Penn State	10	10	261
Benjamin Tate, rb, NC Central	11	9	287
Jim Lane, c, Idaho State	12	14	321

Green Bay—Pittsburgh's Tim Lewis seems to fill the Packers' need for a cornerback with speed and big-play potential. The outspoken Panther speedster can also return kicks.

The Packers appeared to need help at offensive tackle but drafted North Carolina's David Drechsler, whose best position seems to be either guard or center and who has had two knee operations.

NAME-POS-SCHOOL	RD	PICK	SEQ
Tim Lewis, db, Pittsburgh	1	11	11
Trade from New Orleans			
David Drechsler, og, North Carolina	2	20	48
Mike Miller, wr, Tennessee	4	20	104
Bryan Thomas, rb, Pittsburgh	5	20	132
Ron Sams, og, Pittsburgh	6	20	160
Jessie Clark, rb, Arkansas	7	20	188
Carlton Briscoe, db, McNeese State	8	20	216
Robin Ham, c, West Texas State	9	20	243
Byron Williams, wr, Texas (Arlingt'n)	10	2	253
Trade from Houston			
Jim Thomas, db, Indiana	10	20	271
Bucky Scribner, p, Kansas	11	20	299
John Harvey, dt, Southern Cal	12	20	327

Minnesota—Bud Grant went for a defensive back because, frankly, there were a lot of good ones available this time. They got a gifted athlete in USC's Joey Browner, who was a high school linebacker, a cornerback in his first three years at Southern Cal, but a probable NFL safety.

The Vikings gave up their second-round pick to Philadelphia in return for Charlie Johnson and picked Penn State linebacker Walker Lee Ashley in the third round. He has everything the scouts want except size.

NAME-POS-SCHOOL	RD	PICK	SEQ
Joey Browner, db, Southern Cal	1	19	19
Walker Lee Ashley, lb, Penn State	3	17	73
Mark Rush, rb, Miami (Fla.)	4	16	100
Mark Stewart, lb, Washington	5	15	127
Mike Jones, wr, Tennessee State	6	19	159
Carl Lee, db, Marshall	7	18	186
Norris Brown, te, Georgia	8	17	213
Rod Achter, wr, Toledo	9	16	239
Melvin Brown, db, Mississippi	10	4	255
Trade from Los Angeles Rams			
Walter Tate, c, Tennessee State	10	15	266
Brian Butcher, og, Clemson	11	19	298
Maurice Turner, fb, Utah State	12	18	325

Tampa Bay—For the second time in five years, John McKay was devoid of a drafting position in the first round, but he may have landed an athlete of comparable skills in Baylor center Randy Grimes (6-3, 264) who can also play guard. He has excellent speed and aggressiveness.

The late Bear Bryant was an enthusiastic supporter of his cornerback, Jeremiah Castille, and the Bucs picked him in the third round. He can also play safety.

NAME-POS-SCHOOL	RD	PICK	SEQ
Randy Grimes, c, Baylor	2	17	45
Jeremiah Castille, db, Alabama	3	16	72
Kelly Thomas, ot, Southern Cal	4	15	99
Tony Chickillo, dt, Miami (Fla.)	5	19	131
Rheugene Branton, wr, Texas So.	6	8	148
Trade from San Francisco			
Ken Kaplan, ot, New Hampshire	6	18	158
Weldon Ledbetter, rb, Oklahoma	7	17	185
John Samuelson, lb, Azusa Pacific	8	16	212
Hasson Arbubakrr, dt, Texas Tech	9	15	238
Darius Durham, wr, San Diego State	10	19	270
Mark Witte, te, North Texas State	11	18	297
John Higginbotham, dl, NE Okla.	12	17	324

NFC WEST

Atlanta—"It's important that we improve our defense in a hurry," General Manager Tom Braatz said. The Falcons set out to do just that in selecting Alabama end Mike Pitts, LSU back James Britt and South Carolina end Andrew Provence.

Pitts was the first defensive lineman chosen in the draft. It was a lean year at that position but he is an aggressive pass rusher at 6-4½, 260. Britt gained a lot of supporters at the East-West Shrine Game. Provence could be a rough-cut diamond.

NAME-POS-SCHOOL	RD	PICK	SEQ
Mike Pitts, de, Alabama	1	16	16
James Britt, db, Louisiana State	2	15	43
Andrew Provence, de, So. Carolina	3	19	75
John Harper, lb, Southern Illinois	4	18	102
Brett Miller, ot, Iowa	5	17	129
Anthony Allen, wr, Washington	6	16	156
Jeff Turk, db, Boise State	7	15	183
John Rade, lb, Boise State	8	19	215
Ralph Giacomarro, p, Penn State	10	17	268
John Salley, db, Wyoming	11	16	295
Allama Matthews, te, Vanderbilt	12	15	322

Los Angeles Rams—Eric Dickerson said that he's "an LA kind of guy" and new Coach John Robinson couldn't disagree after noting Eric's 9.4 speed to go with a 6-2, 215-pound frame. He should be the player to snap the Rams' recent draft-day jinx. "It seemed like in college every five or six minutes Dickerson was running 65 yards for a touchdown; I kind of like that," Robinson deadpanned.

The Rams should also like Fresno State receiver Henry Ellard and North Carolina linebacker Mike Wilcher. Like Dickerson, Ellard seemed to score for the Bulldogs every five or six minutes. Wilcher was Lawrence Taylor's replacement for the Tar Heels.

NAME-POS-SCHOOL	RD	PICK	SEQ
Eric Dickerson, rb, SMU	1	2	2
Trade from Houston			
Henry Ellard, wr, Fresno State	2	4	32
Mike Wilcher, lb, North Carolina	2	8	36
From 49ers thru San Diego thru 49ers			
Chuck Nelson, k, Washington	4	3	87
Trade from Denver thru San Francisco			
Vince Newsome, db, Washington	4	13	97
Trade from New York Giants			
Doug Reed, dt, San Diego State	4	27	111
Trade from Miami			
Otis Grant, wr, Michigan State	5	22	134
Trade from San Diego			
Gary Kowalski, ot, Boston College	6	4	144
Jeff Simmons, wr, Southern Cal	7	3	171

Troy West, db, Southern Cal	8	4	200
Jack Belcher, c, Boston College	9	3	227
Danny Triplett, lb, Clemson	11	3	282
Clete Casper, qb, Washington State	12	4	311

New Orleans—Bum Phillips had to wait until the second round to grab Arkansas offensive guard Steve Korte. The Saints chose tight end John Rice of Maryland and Clemson running back Cliff Austin in the third round and only two more. It was a surprise that David Greenwood, Wisconsin defensive back and an extremely hard hitter, lasted to the eighth round. He was the Saints' last choice.

NAME-POS-SCHOOL	RD	PICK	SEQ
Steve Korte, og, Arkansas	2	10	38
John Tice, te, Maryland	3	9	65
Cliff Austin, rb, Clemson	3	10	66
Trade from Buffalo thru St. Louis			
Gary Lewis, ng, Oklahoma State	4	14	98
David Greenwood, db, Wisconsin	8	10	206

San Francisco—"I think we're all the way back in playoff contention; we'll be better than our Super Bowl team," 49er Coach Bill Walsh predicted after his team traded a draft pick to get running back Wendell Tyler from the Los Angeles Rams and then picked up Nebraska's Roger Craig to fit in the same backfield. The 222-pound Craig, who rates himself equal as a runner and blocker, will have to beat out veterans Earl Cooper, Vince Williams and Bill Ring.

After selecting Craig, the 49ers went for four defensive players including third-round choice Blanchard Montgomery of UCLA, who ran two interceptions for touchdowns in '82 and was credited with 19 tackles against USC.

NAME-POS-SCHOOL	RD	PICK	SEQ
Roger Craig, rb, Nebraska	2	21	49
Trade from San Diego			
Blanchard Montgomery, lb, UCLA	3	3	59
Trade from Los Angeles Rams			
Tom Holmoe, db, Brigham Young	4	6	90
Riki Gray, lb, Southern Cal	5	5	117
Gary Moten, lb, Southern Methodist	7	7	175
Mike Mularkey, te, Florida	9	5	229
Jeff Merrell, dt, Nebraska	10	8	259
Jesse Sapolu, og, Hawaii	11	7	289

AFC EAST

Baltimore—The good news-bad news draft day experienced by the Colts is already a part of football legend. They drafted Elway at 5 a.m. then heard him announce nine hours later that he'd play almost anywhere except Baltimore.

All but forgotten in the confusion and excitement were two other highly rated players plucked by Frank Kush. Leading off the second round, Baltimore grabbed Arizona State linebacker Vernon Maxwell, a 6-2, 220-pounder who ran a high school 100 in 9.6. He's still just about that fast and consequently produces more than his share of fumbles and sacks. Also out of the Pac-10 came USC's 6-5, 260-pound tackle/noseguard George Achica.

NAME-POS-SCHOOL	RD	PICK	SEQ
John Elway, qb, Stanford	1	1	1
Vernon Maxwell, lb, Arizona State	2	1	29
George Achica, dt, Southern Cal	3	1	57
Phil Smith, wr, San Diego State	4	1	85
Sid Abramowitz, ot, Tulsa	5	1	113
Grant Feasel, c, Abilene Christian	6	21	161
Trade from San Diego			
Alvin Moore, rb, Arizona State	7	1	169
Jim Mills, ot, Hawaii	9	1	225
Chris Rose, ot, Stanford	9	18	241
Trade from Atlanta			
Ronald Hopkins, db, Murray State	10	1	252
Jim Bob Taylor, qb, Georgia Tech	11	1	280
Carl Williams, wr, Texas Southern	12	1	308

Buffalo—The Tom Cousineau trade left Buffalo with two picks in the opening round, and the Bills took the top tight end in the draft, Notre Dame's Tony Hunter, and Miami quarterback Jim Kelly.

A sprinter with 6-4, 237-pound size, Hunter appears a solid choice. Kelly had impressive credentials until he suffered a shoulder injury last season that required surgery. West Virginia linebacker Darryl Talley, drafted by the Bills in the second round, should also improve new Coach Kay Stephenson's team.

NAME-POS-SCHOOL	RD	PICK	SEQ
Tony Hunter, te, Notre Dame	1	12	12
Jim Kelly, qb, Miami (Fla.)	1	14	14
Trade from Cleveland			
Darryl Talley, lb, West Virginia	2	11	39
Trey Junkin, lb, Louisiana Tech	4	9	93
Jimmy Payne, de, Georgia	4	28	112
Trade from Washington thru New Orleans			
Matt Vanden Boom, db, Wisconsin	5	14	126
Gurnest Brown, dt, Maryland	7	12	180
James Durham, db, Houston	8	11	207
George Parker, rb, Norfolk State	9	10	234
Richard Tharpe, dt, Louisville	10	9	260
Larry White, de, Jackson State	11	14	293
Julius Dawkins, wr, Pittsburgh	12	13	320

Miami—"With the confidence I have in both David Woodley and Don Strock, I feel we have a good, stable situation," Don Shula said before the draft. "But if an outstanding quarterback was available when it came time to pick, well, it would depend upon who it is."

Try the name of Dan Marino. Shula did, and decided to draft the Pittsburgh quarterback, who rated as high as Elway in some estimates when he came out of high school. He had a disappointing senior season, but his 6-3 size and tremendous range convinced the Dolphins, who also added Syracuse defensive tackle Mike Charles, a still-maturing All-American.

NAME-POS-SCHOOL	RD	PICK	SEQ
Dan Marino, qb, Pittsburgh	1	27	27
Mike Charles, dt, Syracuse	2	27	55
Charles Benson, de, Baylor	3	20	76
Trade from Green Bay thru Houston			
Reggie Roby, p, Iowa	6	27	167
Keith Woetzel, lb, Rutgers	7	27	195
Mark Clayton, wr, Louisville	8	27	223
Mark Brown, lb, Purdue	9	27	250
Anthony Reed, rb, SC State	10	27	278
Joe Lukens, og, Ohio State	11	27	306
Anthony Carter, wr, Michigan	12	27	334

New England—The Patriots considered, then rejected the idea of trading to obtain Baltimore's rights to Elway. They still came up with a highly regarded quarterback in 6-3 Tony Eason of Illinois, a poised scrambler with an accurate arm.

Then the Pats found somebody for Eason to throw to in Tennessee receiver Darryal Wilson, a sprinter who can also throw a mean block. They added pass catcher Stephen Starring, the living press clipping from McNeese State, a player who must be converted from quarterback.

NAME-POS-SCHOOL	RD	PICK	SEQ
Tony Eason, qb, Illinois	1	15	15
Darryal Wilson, wr, Tennessee	2	19	47
Stephen Starring, wr, McNeese St.	3	18	74
Steve Moore, og, Tennessee State	3	24	80
Trade from San Diego			
Johnny Rembert, lb, Clemson	4	17	101
Smiley Creswell, de, Michigan State	5	6	118
Trade from Chicago			
Darryl Lewis, te, Texas (Arlington)	5	16	128
Mike Bass, k, Illinois	6	15	155
Craig James, rb, SMU	7	19	187
Ronnie Lippett, db, Miami (Fla.)	8	18	214
Ricky Williams, rb, Langston	9	9	233
Trade from New Orleans			
Mark Keel, wr, Arizona	9	17	240
James Williams, te, Wyoming	10	13	264
Trade from New York Giants			
Toby Williams, de, Nebraska	10	14	265
Trade from New Orleans			
Tom Ramsey, qb, UCLA	10	16	267
Steve Parker, wr, Abilene Christian	11	13	292
Trade from New Orleans			
Calvin Eason, db, Houston	11	15	294
Waddell Kelly, rb, Arkansas State	12	12	319
Trade from New Orleans			
Andy Ekern, ot, Missouri	12	19	326

New York Jets—New Coach Joe Walton hinted that he'd be adding some brokers to the New York Sack Exchange, but instead he took a flier on Cal-Davis quarterback Ken O'Brien and Texas Aggie running back Johnny Hector.

O'Brien is 6-4 and could repeat the success of Seattle's Jim Zorn, who came out of Cal-Poly. Injured much of last sason, Hector convinced most of the skeptics with his play in the Blue-Gray game.

NAME-POS-SCHOOL	RD	PICK	SEQ
Ken O'Brien, qb, California (Davis)	1	24	24
Johnny Hector, rb, Texas A&M	2	23	51
JoJo Townsell, wr, UCLA	3	22	78
Wes Howell, te, California	4	21	105
John Walker, dt, Nebraska (Omaha)	5	24	136
Vincent White, rb, Stanford	6	23	163
Darrin Newbold, lb, SW Missouri	7	22	190
Davlin Mullen, db, Western Ky.	8	21	217
Bobby Humphery, wr, New Mex. St.	9	24	247
Danny Fike, ot, Florida	10	23	274
Mike Harmon, wr, Mississippi	11	22	301
Stu Crum, k, Tulsa	12	21	328

AFC CENTRAL

Cincinnati—Few draft observers expected two-time Outland Trophy winner Dave Rimington to be ignored through most of the first round, but he was. Nobody expected the Bengals to draft an offensive center, but they did and the result was a marriage made in Cincinnati.

Injuries to the 292-pound Rimington might have scared off some scouts, but if his knees are sound, the Bengals got a steal. The Bengals' next two picks were devoted to defensive backs, Washington's Ray Horton and UCLA's Jimmy Turner.

NAME-POS-SCHOOL	RD	PICK	SEQ
Dave Rimington, c, Nebraska	1	25	25
Ray Horton, db, Washington	2	25	53
Jimmy Turner, db, UCLA	3	25	81
Steve Maidlow, lb, Michigan State	4	25	109
Jeff Christensen, qb, Eastern Illinois	5	25	137
Kiki De Ayala, lb, Texas	6	12	152
Trade from New Orleans			
Larry Kinnebrew, rb, Tennessee St.	6	25	165
James Griffin, db, Middle Tenn. St.	7	25	193
Mike Martin, wr, Illinois	8	25	221
Stanley Wilson, rb, Oklahoma	9	25	248
Tim Krumrie, dt, Wisconsin	10	25	276
Gary Williams, wr, Ohio State	11	25	304
Andre Young, lb, Bowing Green	12	25	332

(continued on page 110)

GIANTS

It was, he says, the best dream he ever had. Better even than any of those he had as a child back in his home in Williamsburg, Va., sharing a room with two brothers.

The New York Giants are playing in the Super Bowl, there are only about 10 seconds left to play, and the opponent has the ball on the New York 1-yard line. In the dream, the score is tied. Most of his teammates are certain the team will go for a game-winning field goal, but, for reasons dreams never explain, it chooses to run one more offensive play before kicking.

The ball carrier starts around end and he comes up fast to make the tackle. On contact the ball flies from the runner's grip and he catches it in midair. Ninety-nine yards later he has scored the game-winning touchdown, spiked the ball over the crossbar and rushed straight to the locker room, not even waiting to hear the cheers or accept the congratulations from his teammates.

Bill Parcells, former New York defensive coordinator who was elevated to the head coaching job . . . marvels at the ability of the 6-3, 240-pounder.

"It was some dream," says Lawrence Taylor, linebacker for the New York Giants. "When I woke up, I had goose bumps."

There are those who will tell you that the only thing necessary to turn the dream to reality is for the Giants to make it to a Super Bowl, to provide Taylor with the setting in which to act out the fantasy. After all, such heroics have been almost commonplace since he first pulled on a Giants uniform two years ago.

Though the 4-5 record posted by New York in the strike-shortened 1982 season was generally disappointing after making it into the playoffs for the first time in 18 years the season before, Taylor showed no sign of letup. Over the course of the nine-game season he managed 55 tackles, led the team in traps with seven and one-half for a loss of 80 yards, blocked a kick, and against Detroit caused an interception, caused a fumble, managed yet another of his famed one-handed sacks and returned an interception 97 yards for the game-winning touchdown.

No wonder they call him Lawrence of the Meadowlands.

Bill Parcells, former New York defensive coordinator who was elevated to the head coaching job when Ray Perkins resigned to replace the legendary Bear Bryant at Alabama, marvels at the ability of the 6-3, 240-pounder. "He has the ideal combination of size, speed and aggressiveness," says Parcells. "There are quite a few players who have one or two of the necessary qualities for greatness, but Lawrence has the whole package."

As the Giants' first-round draft selection in 1981, Taylor made no bashful entry into his profession. In his first training camp scrimmage, one in which coaches awarded defensive players one point for recovering a fumble, two for causing one, and three for a sack, Taylor accumulated 12 points in 10 minutes.

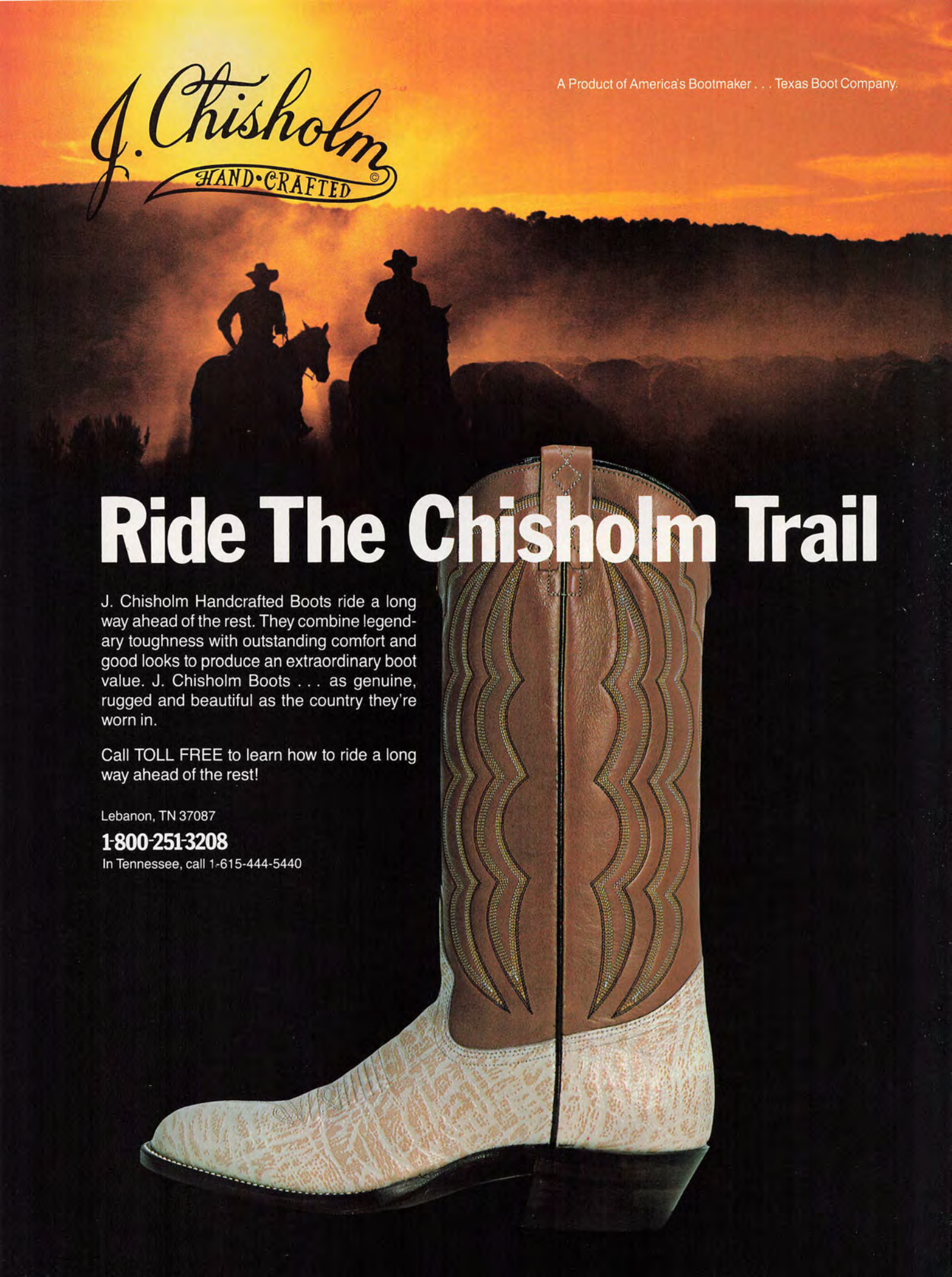
He was in the starting lineup when the season got under way and came up with big plays with near boring regularity. As the Giants were going down the homestretch, bidding for a playoff berth, he assured a 10-7 win over the Los Angeles Rams with a one-handed sack of Pat Haden, which moved the Rams out of field goal position, then stopped another L. A. drive with an interception; sacked Neil Lomax of St. Louis, forcing a fumble which defensive end George Martin picked up and ran in for a go-ahead touchdown; and came up with a critical fumble recovery in a 13-10 overtime victory over Dallas.

By the season's end, he had accumulated 133 tackles, 10 and one-half sacks, a fumble recovery and an interception. In the playoffs, he padded his totals with an additional 14 tackles and two more sacks. He became the first rookie ever honored by the NFL as Defensive Player of the Year. He was also Rookie of the Year, All-Pro, a Pro Bowl starter, the Players' Association Linebacker of the Year. And he probably could have made a good run at public office had he seen fit.

(continued)

The Giants have three excellent quarterbacks, but Scott Brunner may be the likeliest starter.

12
85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(New York Giants continued)

Taylor did it all again last year. Disproving the theory of the sophomore jinx, he was the highest vote-getter of any Pro Bowl participant and was again cited by The Associated Press as the NFL Defensive Player of the Year.

Quiet, almost too gentle in appearance for the Sunday afternoon role he plays, Taylor says, "I'm just another linebacker on a great linebacking squad. I look around me and say to myself that someday I'll be able to tell my kids that I played with Brad Van Pelt, Brian Kelley and Harry Carson, the great pro linebackers of the Seventies and Eighties."

Van Pelt, himself an All-Pro, smiles at the observation, then puts things in perspective: "The amazing thing about Lawrence is that he really doesn't know how good he is. I've never been one for making outlandish statements about other players, but I honestly believe he has a chance to be the best linebacker the Giants have ever had, and I mean from day one."

"I've always found it hard to accept praise," says Taylor. "I've seen too many guys hear how good they are and how good they're gonna be and then not play up to their abilities. I guess it's easy to let yourself believe all that stuff. I don't want to fall into that kind of trap. I work hard at what I do. And I go into every game feeling that I have to prove myself all over again. I've had a couple of good years but they don't guarantee me anything for next year. Every season, you start over."

When the Giants do start over in '83, trying to regain the playoff magic of '81 and adapt to Parcell's new leadership, it is safe to say the building will begin on the defense. And if the coaching axiom which insists that solid defenses are begun with solid linebacking holds true, the Giants are off to a fast start.

For while Taylor was brilliant at his right outside spot, the other three were carrying their share of the load as well. Working alongside Taylor, inside man Carson led the team in tackles with 107 and was selected to the Pro Bowl. And on the left side, veterans Van Pelt and Kelley accounted for 49 and 83 tackles respectively.

Up front, things were a bit shaky at times last year but should be better in '83. George Martin and Curtis McGriff will battle at left end with Phil Tabor at right end and Bill Neill at nosetackle.

The corners are another plus with Pro Bowl selection Mark Haynes on the left side and Terry Jackson, the team interception leader last year with four, on the right. Veteran Beasley Reece returns at free safety with Bill Currier at strong safety.

The only problem with the Giants' defense, then, appears to be depth. Parcells hopes that problem will be helped by the recent draft.

The offensive picture presents interesting questions. Who the starting quarterback will be when the new season opens is a question Parcells is keeping secret. "I'm looking for a fighter, someone who will get the team into the

(continued on page 196)

With such redoubtable men as Brian Kelley (above), the Giants are well fortified at linebacker. And Pro Bowler Dave Jennings is one of the NFL's top 10 punters.

NEW ORLEANS

If you charted the progress of the New Orleans Saints in two years under Bum Phillips, from 4-12 to a playoff near miss of 4-5, you'd also have to chart the progress of Rickey Jackson.

Here was a high second-round pick, who immediately began living up to his draft status and has been improving ever since. "No, sir," says Bum, "I wouldn't take a number one for him. He's too important to us."

After a year of learning his position by starting every game as the outside linebacker on the left side, Jackson began teaming with left end Bruce Clark to form a sort of dynamic duo that usually made running right hazardous to the health of the offense.

Phillips feels that his team can play better defense next year with the same people. "Our quality is pretty good, good enough to win," he says.

Jackson was disappointed when he failed to make the all-rookie team in 1981, but he had learned to live with such things, coming out of Pittsburgh as he did where he was overshadowed by All-America Hugh Green, linebacker on the other side. "I realize it's hard for a Saint player to get national recognition," says Jackson. "But that will come when the team succeeds. And we're getting close. We'll win our share of big games."

Certainly, Jackson has had his share of big games, sparkling as a pass rusher and pass defender, displaying the speed and quickness to take deep drops.

Jackson is an instinctive athlete long on athletic talent. When he was in fourth grade, he showed up at East Lake Middle School in Florida for the first day of football practice and asked the coach for a tryout. He was 10 asking to play with players 13 and 14.

When the season began, Jackson played himself to a starting job at middle guard, only to have Palm Beach County school officials order him off the team.

From fourth grade on, Jackson dreamed of making it to the pros, avoiding sandlot games because of the risk of injury, preferring to concentrate on organized football to sharpen his talents.

Phillips bubbles excitedly talking of Jackson, saying: "He's all player. He's aggressive with a killer instinct. He's one of the big reasons we've come so far defensively.

"I thought we got better from game to game, even though it didn't show on the scoreboard. There are two ways to build a club. Get better people or get the people you have to play better."

Phillips feels that the Saints did both.

On defense, the Saints improved against the run as well as the pass. They went from an average of 1.7 sacks in '81 to 3.6. And they did it playing some of the best offensive teams in the NFC—Dallas, Atlanta and San Francisco.

Clark, who cost Phillips a No. 1 draft pick after playing two years in Canada, came on strong at one end, leading the team in sacks. Bum's deals at linebacker paid dividends, thanks to productive performances by Rob Nairne, Dennis Winston and Whitney Paul, who cost a sixth, sixth, and seventh round pick, respectively.

Up front, draft choices Frank Warren and Jim Wilks continued to improve along with Jackson. Phillips also was pleased with the development of his young secondary of Dave Waymer, Johnnie Poe, Russell Gary and Frank Wattelet.

Waymer, middle guard Derland Moore, and linebacker Jim Kovach are the only defensive holdovers from the pre-Phillips days, an indication of his housecleaning.

"Warren is a great talent," says Phillips. "Gary did everything we asked. He's a great tackler, capable of taking a receiver away from the offense for the entire game.

Phillips feels that his team can play better defense next year with the same people. "Our quality is pretty good, good enough to win," he says.

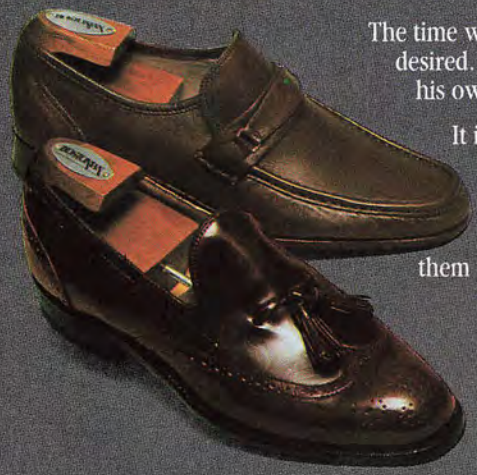
Offensively, the key will be how well quarterback Dave Wilson returns from knee surgery. The 24-year-old Illinois product, who cost a No. 1 pick in the '81 supplemental draft, will be battling the 37-year-old Ken Stabler for the starting job. Stabler says he'll return. At $400,000, can you blame him?

(continued)

Injuries cramped George Rogers' style somewhat, but he still ran for 535 yards in the nine-game season.

28

Eventually, you reach a stage in life where you don't have to wear the same shoes everybody else does.



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BOSTONIAN

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Bum Phillips will enjoy the season more if Saints like Johnnie Poe and Frank Wattelet (right) jar the ball loose now and then, and wide receiver Jeff Groth (below) carries it long distances.

(New Orleans continued)

"Dave's knee is as good as ever," says Phillips. "If Kenny comes back and plays like he did in the finale against Atlanta (a 35-6 Saints' win) he'll be around several more years."

It was a bittersweet year for George Rogers. Despite leg and shoulder problems, Rogers ran impressively. However, a postpractice race (for fun) with Jackson resulted in a pulled hamstring that sidelined him when the Saints were battling for a playoff spot. Rogers' future could hinge on how seriously he works during the off-season.

Meanwhile, Wayne Wilson made rapid strides as a runner and receiver, giving indications he'll be around for a long time.

The offensive line improved, thanks to the play of veterans Stan Brock, John Hill, Kelvin Clark and Dave Lafary, and to rookies like Brad Edelman and Lou Oubre. Phillips insists Leon Gray will be a strong factor at tackle in '83.

In the receiver area, Phillips may be looking to improve his situation at tight end, but he's pleased with the wide-out picture that has Lindsay Scott, Jeff Groth, Ken Duckett, Rich Mauti and Aundra Thompson. Of Scott, a No. 1 pick, Phillips says: "Once he learns how to beat a defensive back and not just use his speed and jumping ability, he'll be great." Next year they'll be joined by Eugene Goodlow, another Canadian import drafted last year in the third round. Goodlow is recovering from a neck injury. If he shakes it, Phillips says he could be the team's best receiver.

Phillips expects Russell Erxleben to punt again and Morten Andersen to handle field goals. Injured in the regular-season opener, Andersen finished impressively.

And Jackson?

"Like a good wine, he'll get better the longer he's here, and he'll be around a long time," says Phillips.

END

RAIDERS

About the nicest thing you could say to Todd Christensen, just a couple of years ago, was that he was a great special-teams player. But that's like praising a kid for being the best on the block at breaking bricks with his nose.

It's nice to have a skill. But does one that painful portend a lengthy career?

Maybe that's why you seldom hear precocious children brag that they're going to grow up to be wedge-breakers. And when he was a child, Christensen seemed to have several more promising athletic talents.

At the age of eight, he held the world age-group record in the shot put. At the age of nine, he was able to claim a similar world championship in the discus. How did he know? At the time, he was living in Eugene, Ore., world capital of jogging. When a baby is born in Eugene, they don't register a footprint. They take him out to Hayward Field at the University of Oregon and clock him in the 100, then they toss him back into his crib with his shot.

"To tell the truth, I think we can beat every team by throwing the ball to me," Christensen maintains. "I never doubted my ability."

As a teenager in Eugene, Christensen had already outgrown track and field, but he earned nine high school letters as an all-state running back, all-league center-fielder and All-America basketball guard.

As a four-year football starter at pass-crazy Brigham Young, Christensen quickly learned to catch as well as throw. He led BYU receivers three straight seasons, ending in 1977.

And three years later, it looked as though Christensen had achieved his personal and professional niche, as captain of special teams, sacrificing his body between the goal line and the 20.

Even that represented an accomplishment at the time because Christensen already had been discarded by Dallas and cut by the New York Giants.

"Ray Perkins (former Giants' coach) said I couldn't play special teams," he recalls with a slow smile.

The Los Angeles Raiders, then the Oakland Raiders, caught Christensen on the rebound early in the '79 season. They told him he was a tight end. They added that the only thing he had to do to get a starting shot was to beat out Dave Casper and Raymond Chester. That was the year both Raiders went to the Pro Bowl as tight ends.

Last season, Christensen's fourth with the Raiders, he found he had to beat out only Derrick Ramsey. And when Ramsey blew a knee on a freeway in the summer of '82, Todd suddenly had a new job. He started the first two games because Ramsey couldn't. Ramsey was pronounced physically sound at the conclusion of the lengthy football strike, but Christensen retained the job.

The Raiders' season resumed against San Diego on a Monday night telecast, and Christensen caught eight passes for 83 yards and a touchdown in a 28-24 win over the Chargers.

Armed with such credentials entering the '83 season, Christensen has enough financial security to allow him to buy both his young sons customized shots, complete with teething rings.

"To tell the truth, I think we can beat every team by throwing the ball to me," Christensen maintains. "I never doubted my ability. But I wondered frequently if I'd ever get a chance."

Raider Coach Tom Flores has always liked the way that Christensen handles passes and "makes things happen," especially on the special teams. But Flores said that the improvement the 6-3, 230-pound tight end made in blocking technique represented his greatest achievement.

The Evolution of Todd Christensen was just one of the phenomenons that transformed the Raiders from Javelin-Catchers in 1981 into Olympians in '82. This

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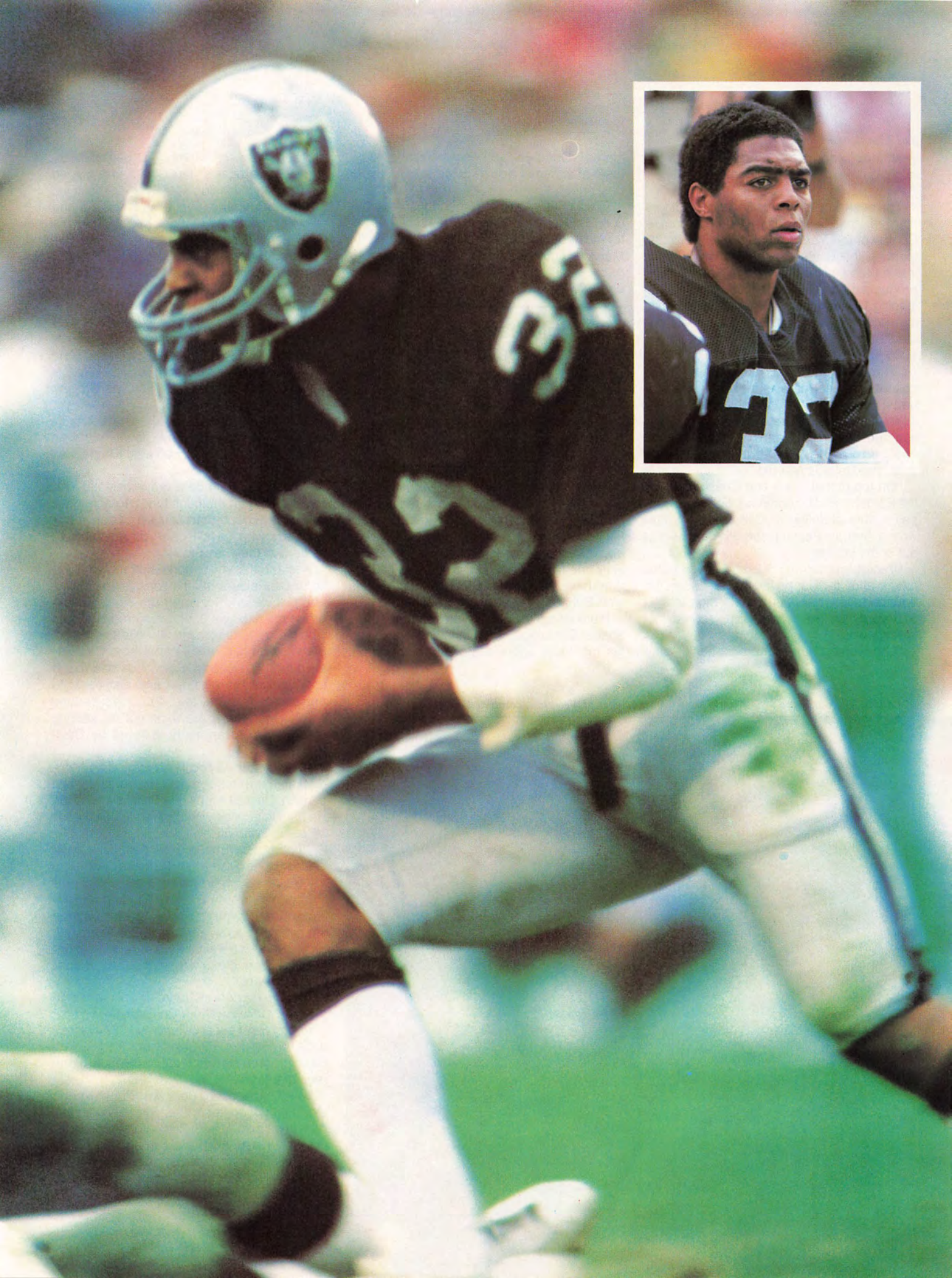
Marcus Allen, 1981 Heisman Trophy winner, made All-Pro in his first year with the Raiders.



(Los Angeles Raiders continued)

year, their second in Los Angeles Coliseum, might be the one that could return the Super Bowl trophy to Al Davis' den.

The best-publicized addition to the Raiders' starring cast last season was, of course, Rookie of the Year Marcus Allen. While still learning the Raider system during a strike-interrupted season, he emerged as the most productive back in the league with an NFL-leading 14 touchdowns and a combined rushing-receiving total of 1,098 yards. Only one other back, Atlanta's William Andrews, topped 1000.

"The concern about Allen coming out of college was that he was a one-dimensional back," said Mike McCormack after he had coached Seattle against the Raiders last season. "But he can catch the ball and he has that one-yard quickness, the ability to make people miss, like Gale Sayers did.

"On top of that, Allen and Christensen are the Raiders' leading receivers. But if you don't pay a little attention to Cliff Branch, you're wrong. And Jim Plunkett can kill you, if he gets out of the pocket."

Branch, considered washed up by some critics after a disappointing '81 season, rebounded last year with a team-high total of 575 yards on 30 catches. He scored four touchdowns.

"Cliff worked hard at coming back," says Flores. "Once you've been there and had a taste of success, you're going to give it your best shot."

"Todd has made a tremendous contribution," Branch says. "He makes it a lot easier for me because he controls the middle. As for Marcus, I figure any time I have a big game it's because of him. He's added three years to my career."

"People have said I was through, that I couldn't do it anymore. Anybody who says I can't do anything, I'll battle until they have to kill me."

Plunkett, another senior citizen, had to convince the guys on the curb last season and doubtless will be confronted by skeptics again. He understands why. "I don't consider myself one of the best anymore, although I did at one time," he says. "I can't throw the ball as far. I don't have the zip on it I once did. I can't run as well. But I can certainly get the job done."

Plunkett led the Raiders to that comeback against San Diego when Christensen also had his moments under a Monday-night moon. Plunkett threw the winning TD pass with 25 seconds left against the Chiefs and guided the team to a winning score with 29 ticks left on the clock against the Rams. It was the kind of clutch play that marked Kenny Stabler's best years with the Raiders.

Kenny King did a superb job last season adjusting to a new role at fullback and leading the blocking for All-Pro Allen.

"Our offensive line is very strong and big in the Raider tradition," Plunkett says. "They beat you and beat you and beat you. Curt Marsh is a big strong kid and so is Bruce Davis." And those young players have meshed their talents with Henry Lawrence, Mickey Marvin and Dave Dalby.

Defensively, the addition of end Lyle Alzado, 12-year veteran traded by Cleveland for an eighth-round draft pick, had a dual impact on improved Raider fortunes.

"The Browns made a grave mistake," Alzado says in an ominous tone. "People have said I was through, that I couldn't do it anymore. Anybody who says I can't do anything, I'll battle until they have to kill me."

A teammate who understands such motivation is the Raiders' other defensive end, Howie Long. "Lyle and I come from similar backgrounds," explains Long, who credits Alzado with his improved play in '82. "He came from Brownsville, N.Y., and I came from Charlestown in South Boston. Both of us had rough upbringings. His attitudes and playing style are similar to mine, too." In Long's second season with the Raiders, he got his starting chance due to an injury suffered by Dave Browning.

Alzado and All-Pro linebacker Ted Hendricks shared team leadership in sacks last season. Outside linebacker Matt Millen led the Raiders in tackles with 63. Rod Martin wasn't far behind with 56.

Another Pro Bowler was defensive back Lester Hayes. Free safety Burgess Owens led the Raiders in pass interceptions.

In common with Branch, Plunkett and Alzado, Greg Pruitt is another ageless veteran seemingly reborn with this Raider team. He has assumed a valuable role as punt-return specialist on the (excuse the expression) Special Team.

And the Raiders still have one of the best in the NFL, with or without Christensen.

Punter Ray Guy allowed only 17 of 47 kicks to be returned in 1982. And Chris Bahr kicked 62 points onto the board during the nine-game regular season.

Like Christensen, Bahr was an all-sports star as a youngster and a high school letterman in football, soccer, basketball and tennis. His father was his soccer coach during an All-America season at Penn State.

And his mother certainly didn't raise him to be a wedge-breaker.

END

Ted Hendricks (83) and Lyle Alzado have over a quarter of a century, combined, of pro experience.

Raiders' safety Burgess Owens climbs every mountain trying to reach the ball.

44
NEIL
77
56

GREEN BAY

Lynn Dickey is contemplating a trophy room for his Kansas home. When it is completed, it will have a most unusual annex.

Oh, there will be the customary trophies and plaques, silver and gold, framed certificates and resolutions, letter sweaters and rings. But in the annex, there will be nuts and bolts and screws and a long steel rod. These are among the supports and binders used through the years to put Dickey back together again and again and again.

"I didn't set out to gather this collection but I have it," says the largely reconstructed Green Bay quarterback. "Right now I keep the stuff with the hammers and screwdrivers and nails, but if I build that room like I plan, I'll display this stuff. People are always asking about it."

"In pro football, if you never get injured, you are lucky if you can play until you are 33. Now I am 33 and expect to play at least another three years and I haven't exactly escaped injury."

If there were an NFL Orthopedic Hall of Fame, Dickey would be in the charter class, alongside Joe Namath. At one time, he was a threat to every airport security checkpoint, as filled with metal as he was. Now he is only flesh and bones, ready to quarterback a young, talented Packer team. It's a team with the loftiest of goals, none apparently beyond reach.

"I think it is the steel rod, which is about a half-inch in diameter, that is the prize of the special collection," Dickey says, laughing.

To Coach Bart Starr, the fact that Dickey laughs at his survival testifies to his mental and physical strength. That he continues to play and improve makes him a special breed.

"Here's the way I feel," Dickey says. "In pro football, if you never get injured, you are lucky if you can play until you are 33. Now I am 33 and expect to play at least another three years and I haven't exactly escaped injury."

He did escape injury as a kid growing up around Paola and Osawatomie, Kan., once Osage Indian country.

"I played in high school and college (Kansas State) without serious injury," says Dickey. "My high school coach and Vince Gibson at Kansas State both taught mental toughness. They were no-excuse-type coaches. I think that helped me down the line not to give up but to make up my mind and go to it."

Dickey had a fine college career and Houston drafted him in the third round in 1971. The injuries followed thusly:

- At Houston in 1973, a serious hip-socket injury in the preseason caused him to miss the regular season.
- At Green Bay in 1976, 10th game, he suffered a left-shoulder separation requiring surgery that decked him for that year.
- At Green Bay in 1977, 10th game, he suffered a broken left leg (both tibia and fibula) requiring repeated surgery and sidelining him for the rest of 1977 and all of 1978. He finally started again in the 13th game of 1979. He's been at it since.
- At Green Bay in 1981, he missed three games after being speared in the back.

As a result of all these wounds, Dickey limped for a while but does not now.

"The hip injury was the most severe because of the complexity of the joint," he says. "It was dislocated and a piece of my pelvis broke off.

"But the broken leg took the longest to heal. It did not heal right at first. It took over a year and four operations to get it right. The method finally was to drive that long steel rod through my bone marrow from the knee to the ankle. Enough to make you squirm, eh? It worked. The leg is fine. I am fine. The steel rod is my foremost trophy in that special collection."

Dickey has set all manner of Packer records since his return to health. He owns more individual Packer records than any quarterback in history, including Starr.

The 1980 season was Dickey's most productive—278 completions in 478

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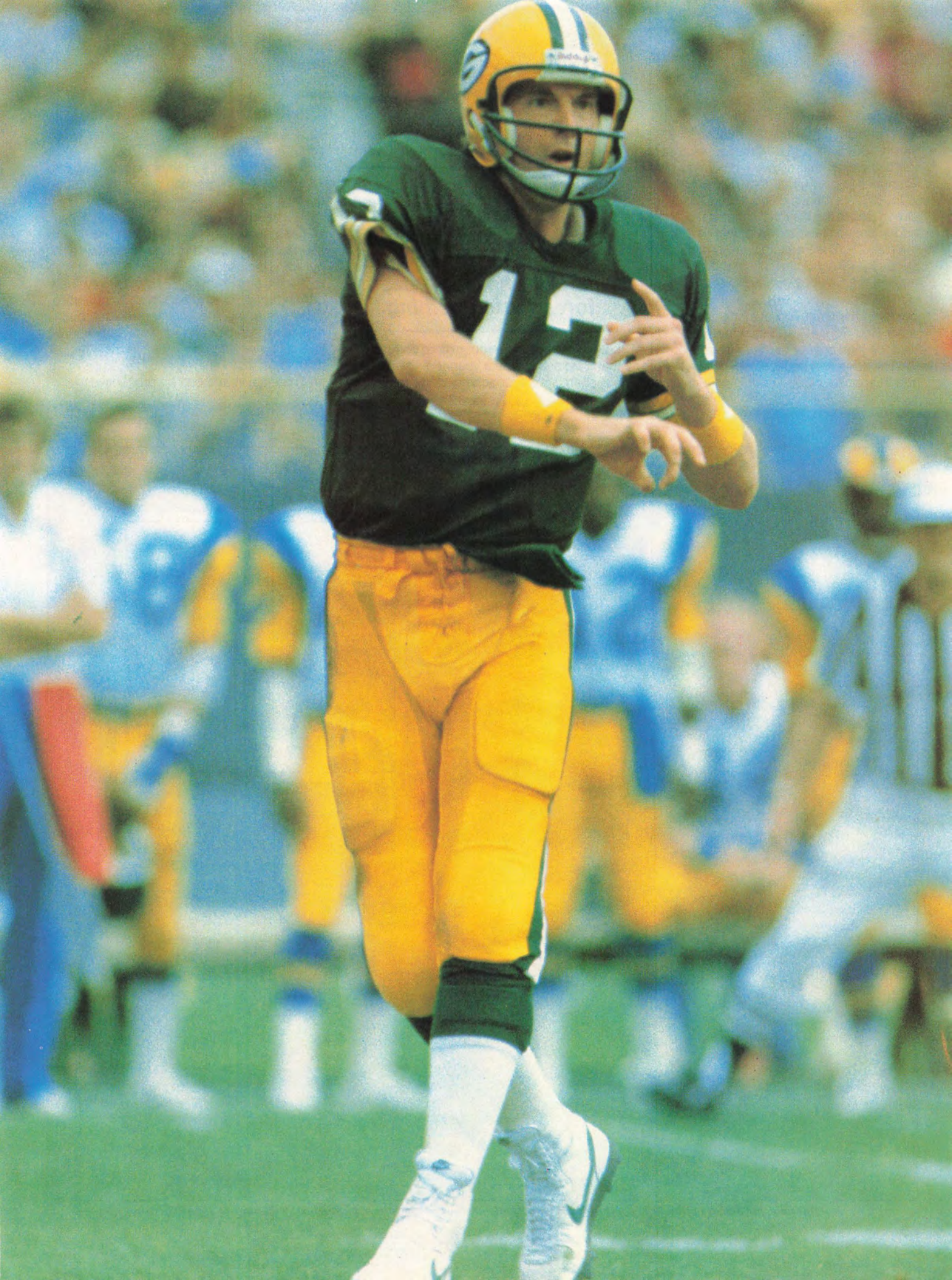
His many wounds healed, veteran Lynn Dickey quarterbacks a young, ambitious Packer team.



(Green Bay continued)

attempts for a 58.1 rating. He passed for 3,525 yards. 1981 was a good one, too, except for the back injury that allowed understudy Rich Campbell to gain game experience.

In 1982, a healthy and wise Dickey led Green Bay to the playoffs in that weird, strike-ridden season, and to a win over St. Louis in the playoffs. The Packers were eliminated by Dallas 37-26 but Dickey passed for 392 yards against the Cowboys.

"I think Lynn is one of the toughest quarterbacks in the league," says offensive coordinator Bob Schnelker. "I think he proved that with the kind of year he had last season."

"The key to this season," says Starr, "will be the response of our people to our limited success last year and the challenge of a very tough schedule. We play eight playoff teams, but despite that, I feel much more comfortable than I did at this time a year ago. The feelings we shared as a coaching staff, coming off 1981 when we won the last six games, were polarized in 1982."

"There is a fine line between mental toughness and stupidity, and I am not sure where I fit. But I have not been forced into anything."

The Packers need better pass protection, to cut down on interceptions and more depth, but little else.

"We have the manpower to win," says Starr. "It has been a slow building process. It has been painstaking and injuries have slowed us, but we are close."

"I look at it this way," says Dickey, now unbandaged, unbraced and unsupported. "There is a fine line between mental toughness and stupidity, and I am not sure where I fit. But I have not been forced into anything. I do this because I enjoy it, and I will do it as long as I do enjoy it and can be productive."

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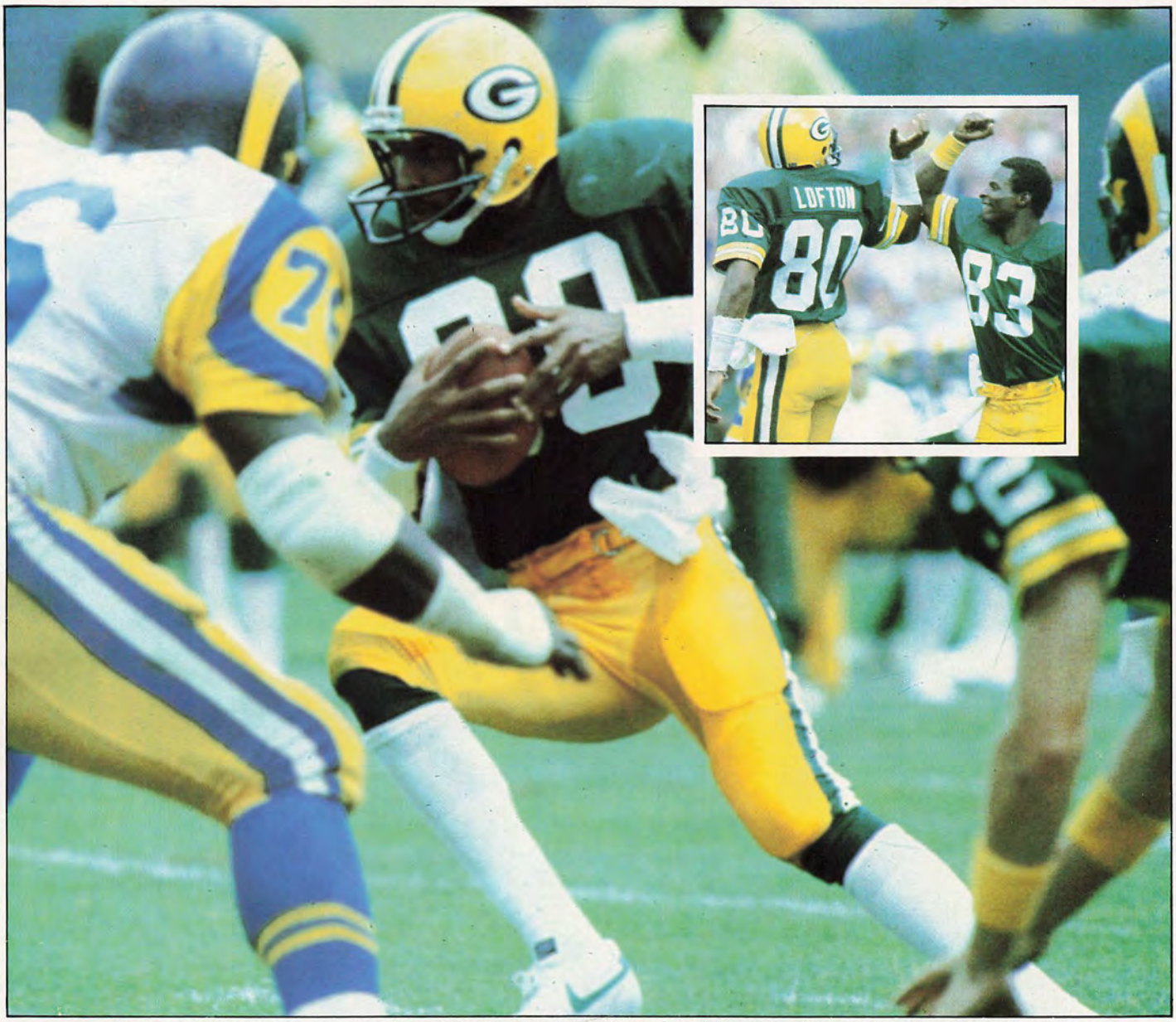

Not this time, but James Lofton turned one of his 35 catches into an 80-yard touchdown play. (Inset: with receiver John Jefferson.)

BACK ROW: Clarence Rolman, 81; Lawrence Burns, 66; Garland Dusenberry, 70; Charlie Walker, 71.
FRONT ROW: Bill C. Fanning, 75; Lee Gray, 66; Lamont Weaver, 67; Herb Fanning, 78.

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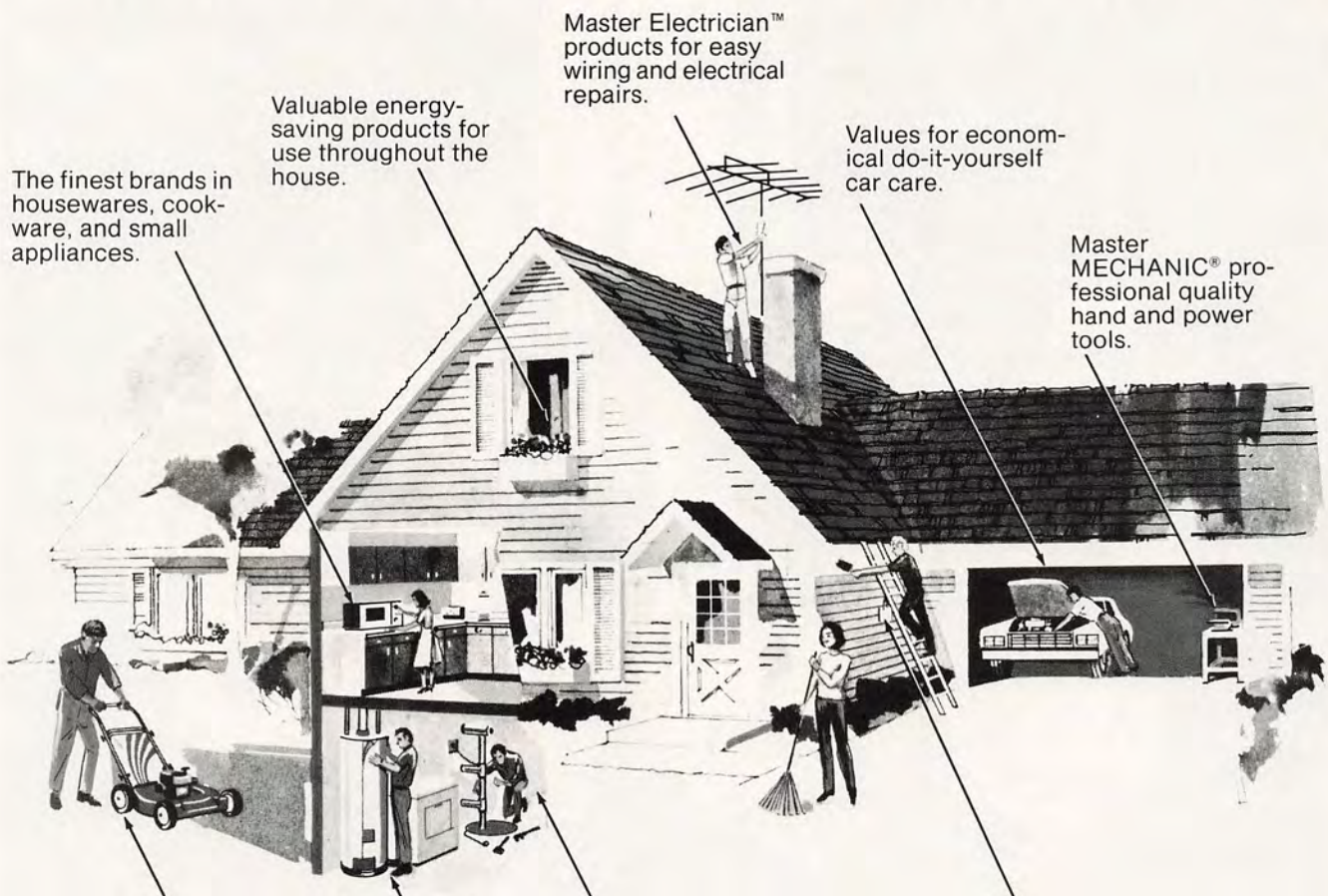
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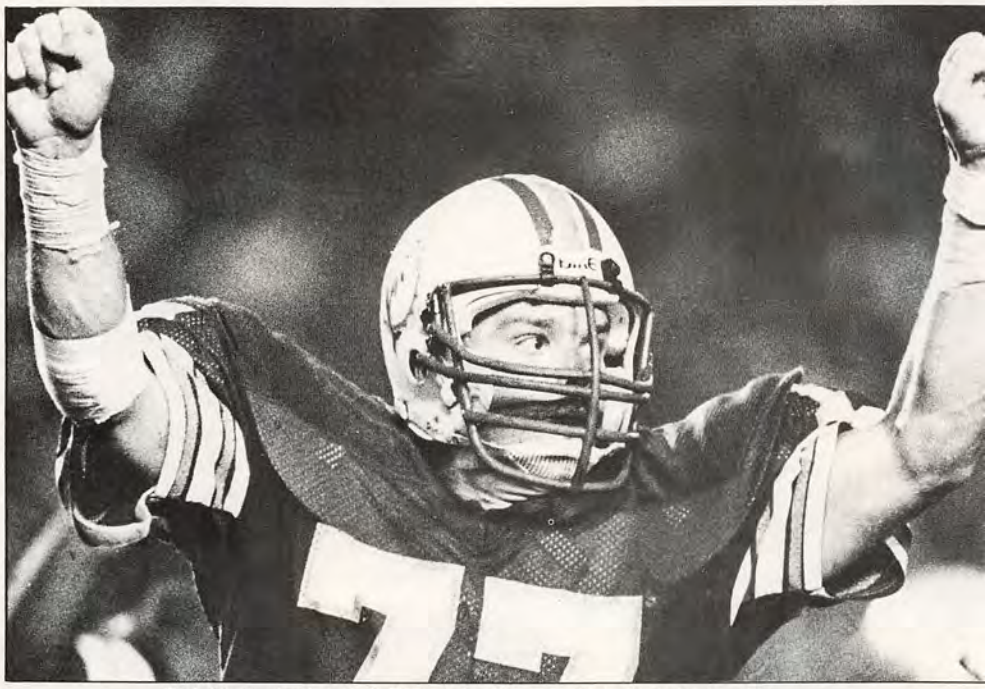
(Miami continued)
situations, and his coverage has improved.

Arnsparger shifts Duhe all over the field. He will line up on the line, in a three-point stance or standing up; he will flop from end to end, or move into gaps along the defensive line—anything to confuse the opposition.

As a Dolphin rookie, Duhe led in sacks. He also leads the team in butterflies. The night before a big game, he says he can hardly sleep. Teammates say they know when Duhe is primed by the way he talks. The more he talks, the better he plays.

"A.J.'s our fire-up guy," says Bob Baumhower, Miami's noseguard and a semiemotional fellow himself. "It's the fourth quarter, everybody's draggin', but there's old A.J., ready to go. It makes everybody play better."



Dolphin linebacker A. J. Duhe is hardly your basic silent leader type.

Woodley showed wonderful flashes last season, particularly in the playoff game against San Diego.

"When you're tired and you see him still jumping around, it really lifts you," says Bokamper. "He's definitely a leader, and definitely not a silent leader."

Says Kozlowski: "He lights us up."

Now, if only the Dolphins could find someone like that for their offense, a Super Bowl championship would be in Miami's future.

A year ago, the offense sputtered most of the time until the last weeks of the regular season and the first two rounds of the playoffs, when it produced yards and points the way Shula expected.

But against the Jets—on a muddy field in miserable rainy conditions—and against the Redskins in the Super Bowl, the offensive unit performed poorly, leaving questions for the upcoming season.

The biggest question mark concerns quarterback David Woodley, who will enter his fourth season most likely still looking over his shoulder to see if Shula is warming up veteran Don Strock or rookie Dan Marino, the fifth quarterback taken in the first round of the draft.

Woodley showed wonderful flashes last season, particularly in the playoff game against San Diego. But the Dolphins finished the season No. 27 in passing offense in the NFL.

Still, the Dolphins have some outstanding weapons on offense. Woodley would be wise to hand off frequently to third-year fullback Andra Franklin, a Pro Bowler last season who gained 701 yards and was third-leading rusher in the NFL. He is a bull-like Larry Csonka type runner, with straight-ahead power. Franklin almost always gets the ball when his team is nearing the goal line.

His running back partner, Tony Nathan, had a spotty season, plagued by injuries at the start. He came on strong toward the end of the year, particularly in the playoffs, and Miami is hoping he can continue that trend.

The Dolphins will probably look for help at wide receiver in training camp. Woodley also likes to throw to Jimmy Cefalo, a clutch third-down receiver who doesn't have great speed but somehow always seems to be open. Shula also shuttles in three tight ends, depending on the situation. That position seems ably manned by Bruce Hardy, Joe Rose and Ronnie Lee.

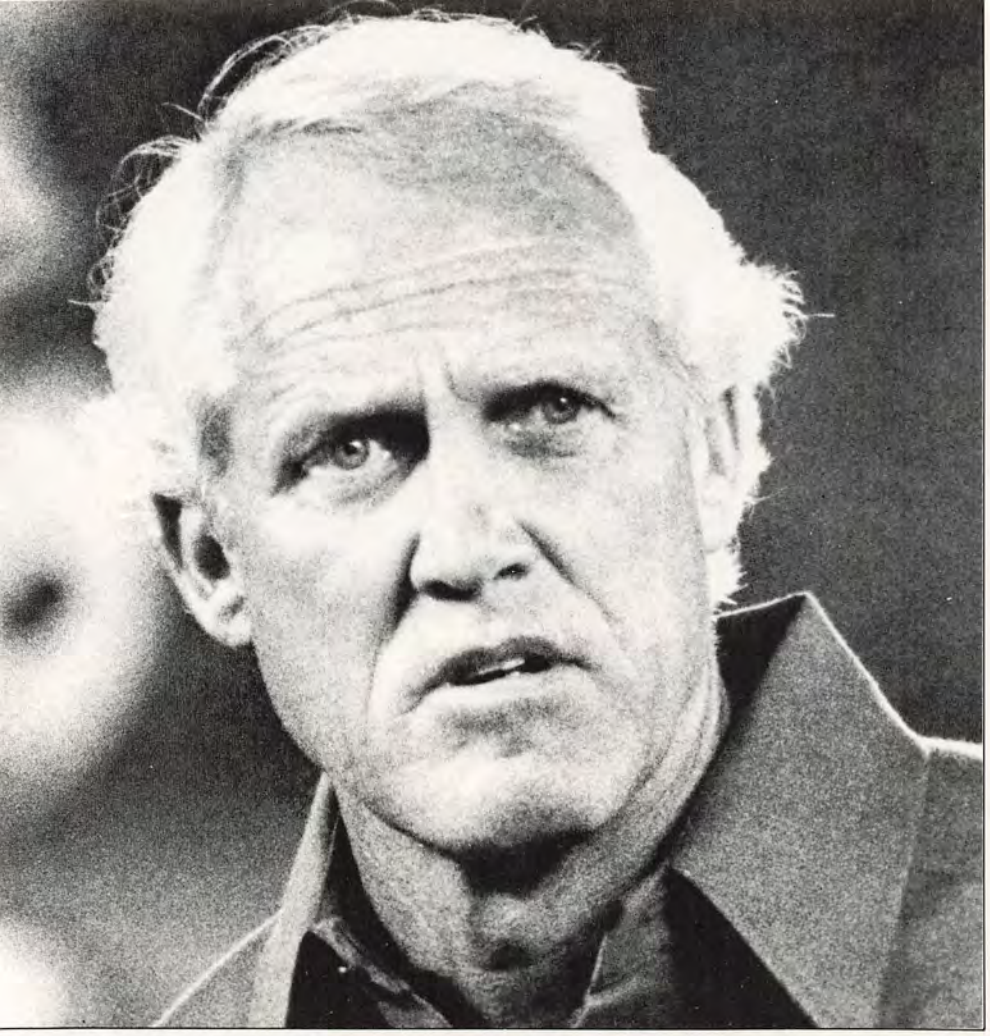
The offensive line shows some signs of age. Guard Bob Kuechenberg, 35, is a holdover from the Miami glory years of the early '70s. Offensive guard Ed Newman, 32, another veteran player, suffered a serious knee injury last season, but the Dolphins expect him to return. In center Dwight Stephenson, the Dolphins believe they are set for years to come.

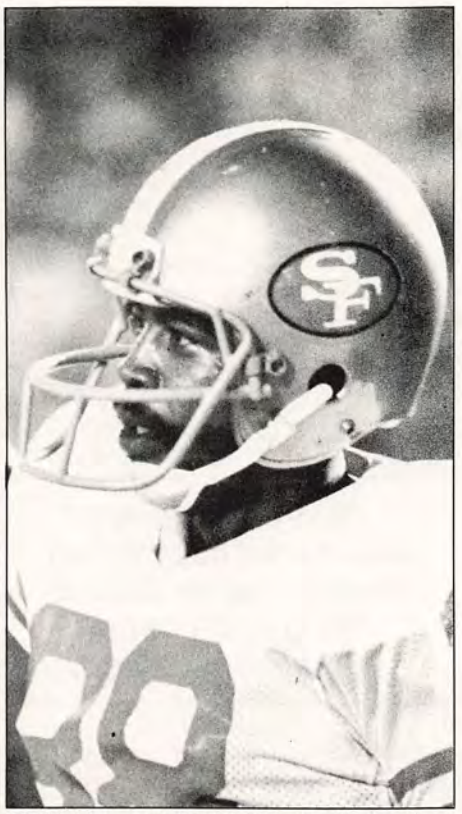
Kicker Uwe von Schamann recovered from a bout with colitis before the start of last season to become one of the league's most dependable field goal specialists. He made good on 15 of 20 attempts.

As long as the Killer Bees continue stinging opposing offenses, the Dolphins will buzz into the playoffs.

END

David Woodley has a firm grip at quarterback even if his team did finish 27th in passing offense.





Bill Walsh expects Freddie Solomon (top) and Dwaine Board (chasing the Lions' Gary Danielson) to be key comeback figures.

(San Francisco continued)

Walsh was saying after the 21-20 defeat. "It was building all year and this game certainly culminated it. We just self-destructed. It's something I have to live with. I can't really explain what happened. I'd like to throw this season out because of the strike, but I can't."

What pained Walsh in the finale was, as he explained, "We have some men who are Pro Bowl performers who played shoddy football. We must do some soul-searching. I'm sure winning the Super Bowl makes it feel worse. There's no escaping it. This is a very difficult moment."

Champions bounce back. Will the 49ers follow in this mold?

If they again become a championship organization, the well-adjusted, self-disciplined, self-motivated Ronnie Lott will have a key role.

Taking advantage of his business school education, Lott is into real estate ventures with his father, a retired military man.

No one had to sell Lott on the value of a college education.

"More football players would graduate if they could see how vital it is," he says. "It's hard for an athlete to grasp. He knows he's in college because he's a good athlete, so he thinks football is what's important. It isn't difficult to pick up a book and read it. You just have to want to. If you can read a playbook, you can read a history book."

END

Zorn to Largent

ESP in Seattle

by John Owen

To a lot of people who watch pro football only on televsion, the name "Seattle Seahawks" projects the image of quarterback Jim Zorn, receiver Steve Largent and a pitiful pass rush.

What image do the Seahawks produce among veteran coaches in the league? Chuck Knox was asked by an inquisitive reporter in his first day on the job.

"I guess that's pretty much what everybody would think about the Seahawks," the new coach of the team once dubbed Patera's Pigeons acknowledged. "I hope pretty soon it will project the image of winning football."

Well, if there's a nugget left in Fort Knox, a burnished image of Seattle's NFL entry almost certainly will emphasize the glitter of the Seahawks' 14-karat receiver. And that's probably true whether the football is being thrown by Largent's old buddy Zorn or shot out of a cannon with the three youngest members of The Flying Fazio Family.

The Tulsa Towhead has been the most consistent member of the organization since the franchise was hatched in a clam bed alongside Puget Sound.

Largent has led Seahawk receivers in each of the team's seven years. He was the first Seattle player selected for the Pro Bowl. And he has caught at least one pass in 76 consecutive games.

John Brodie once wrote about the almost extrasensory communication he developed with some of his receivers at San Francisco. If Zorn steps back into the pocket on the 50-yard line, sees four onrushing Raider lineman and exclaims "Gee!" just before he releases the ball, Largent says "Whiz" just before he pulls it in on a diving catch in the end zone. But there is a silent understanding between the two. On the next critical situation, Largent gets to say "Gee" and Zorn is allowed to repeat the snappy rejoinder.

They have appeared on the same televised milk commercials wearing the same "moostaches" on behalf of the Washington Dairy Farmers. And afterward, they pick up their wives and go out to celebrate, over glasses of milk, of course.

But it is significant that last season pass plays provided the Seahawks with a pair of victories over the Denver Broncos.

—In the first game, Zorn hit Largent from 34 yards out with only 49 seconds to play in a 17-10 game.

—In the last game of the season, quarterback Dave Krieg hooked up with receiver Roger Carr on a 19-yard TD toss with 47 seconds left on the clock in a 13-11 squeaker.

In the past two years, under Jack Patera and interim coach Mike McCormack, the quarterback situation has been unsettled for virtually the first time in the history of the franchise.

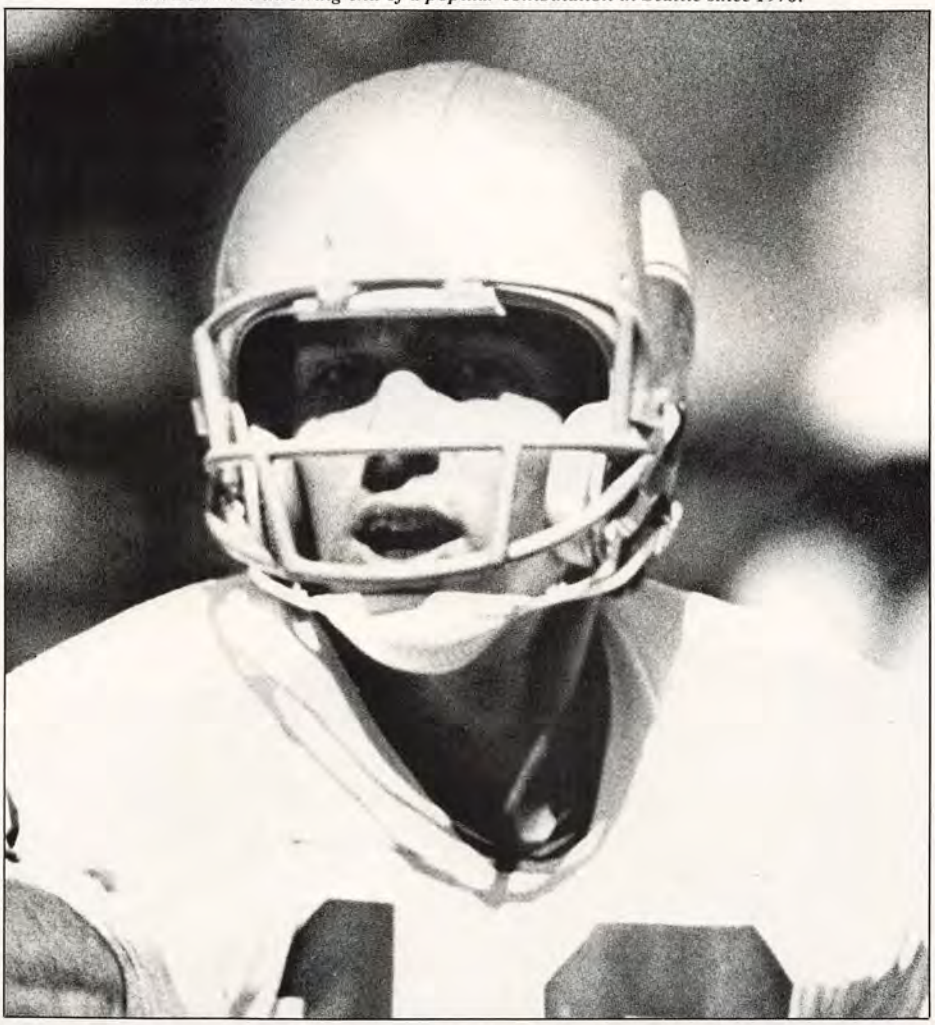
"And it did take some adjustment," Largent admits. "Coach Patera shifted Krieg into the starting quarterback spot just before our opening game last year, and it was kind of unexpected. You develop confidence in certain people just because you assume they are going to be out there on the field when the gun goes off.

"It's not that Dave was a stranger. He'd been here two years and I'd worked with him every day in practice. But you just don't immediately develop the same kind of confidence you have in somebody you've played with for six or seven seasons.

"Dave and Jim aren't a lot different in the way they throw the ball." (Actually, there is a difference since Zorn is a left-hander.) "But there is an adjustment for a receiver in guessing when and where they are going to throw the ball. If the receivers are initially covered, Krieg might take a chance and shoot the ball in there anyway, while Zorn instead might run with it or scramble around back there."

(continued on page 178)

Jim Zorn: the throwing end of a popular combination in Seattle since 1976.



Who will win the Heisman Trophy in 1983?

Watch "The 1983 Heisman Trophy Award" television special on Saturday, Dec. 3. Check your local TV listing for time and channel.

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Strange Is the Lot Of a Ram Quarterback

by Peter Finney

It would be wrong for Vince Ferragamo to play anywhere but Los Angeles, that is, near Hollywood.

You move through the different stages of this quarterback's life as a professional, and it has all the elements of a real-life soap opera.

Consider the following episodes:

May 3, 1977: Ferragamo is drafted by the Rams in the fourth round and signs a three-year contract for a total of $125,000. In training camp, the depth chart reads: Pat Haden, Joe Namath, Vince Ferragamo.

April 23, 1978: During the off-season, Ferragamo attends medical school at Creighton University in Omaha. He says in an interview: "Mom wanted me to be a doctor, Dad wanted me to be an athlete. Here I am trying to do both. I'm leaning toward sports medicine. It seems only natural."

July 27, 1979: Ferragamo's a quarterback who has not broken a sweat in two years. He's restless, filled with self-doubt. "I'm not getting any younger," he says. "If they're sold on Haden, they're not going to change their minds. I know I have to emerge fairly soon."

Nov. 4, 1979: Haden has completed 17 of 21 passes and Rams lead Seahawks 24-0 when he fractures a finger in a seam of the Kingdome rug and is lost for the season. Ferragamo doesn't get to play because of fractured ribs.

Nov. 19, 1979: Vince gets his first start in a Monday night game against Atlanta and throws for 171 yards and two touchdowns in 20-14 win. "I'm still a little shaky but the team seems to groove with me," Ferragamo says. "I might have opened a couple of eyes. The team needs a leader."

Nov. 25, 1979: After throwing two interceptions, Ferragamo is replaced by Bob Lee who throws winning pass in 26-20 win over 49ers. Vince refuses to speak to media after the game.

Nov. 27, 1979: Headline reads: "Ferragamo Questions His Status." Vince says, "I'm not sure where I stand. Guys like Terry Bradshaw, they don't get pulled."

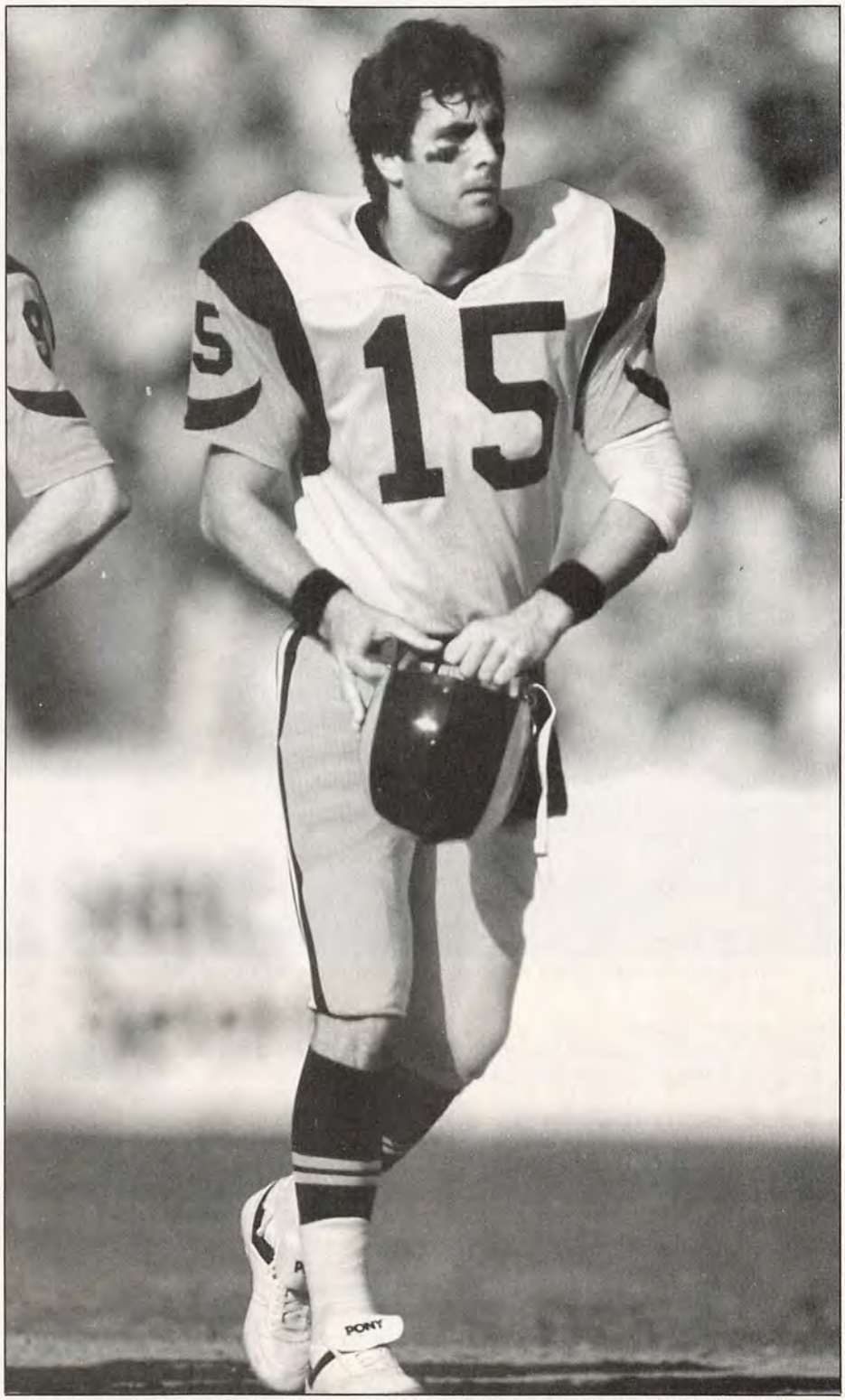
Nov. 28, 1979: Ram Coach Ray Malavasi says there is no quarterback controversy. "Vince is still number one."

Dec. 2, 1979: Lee again comes to Ferragamo's aid as Rams whip Vikings 27-21 in overtime.

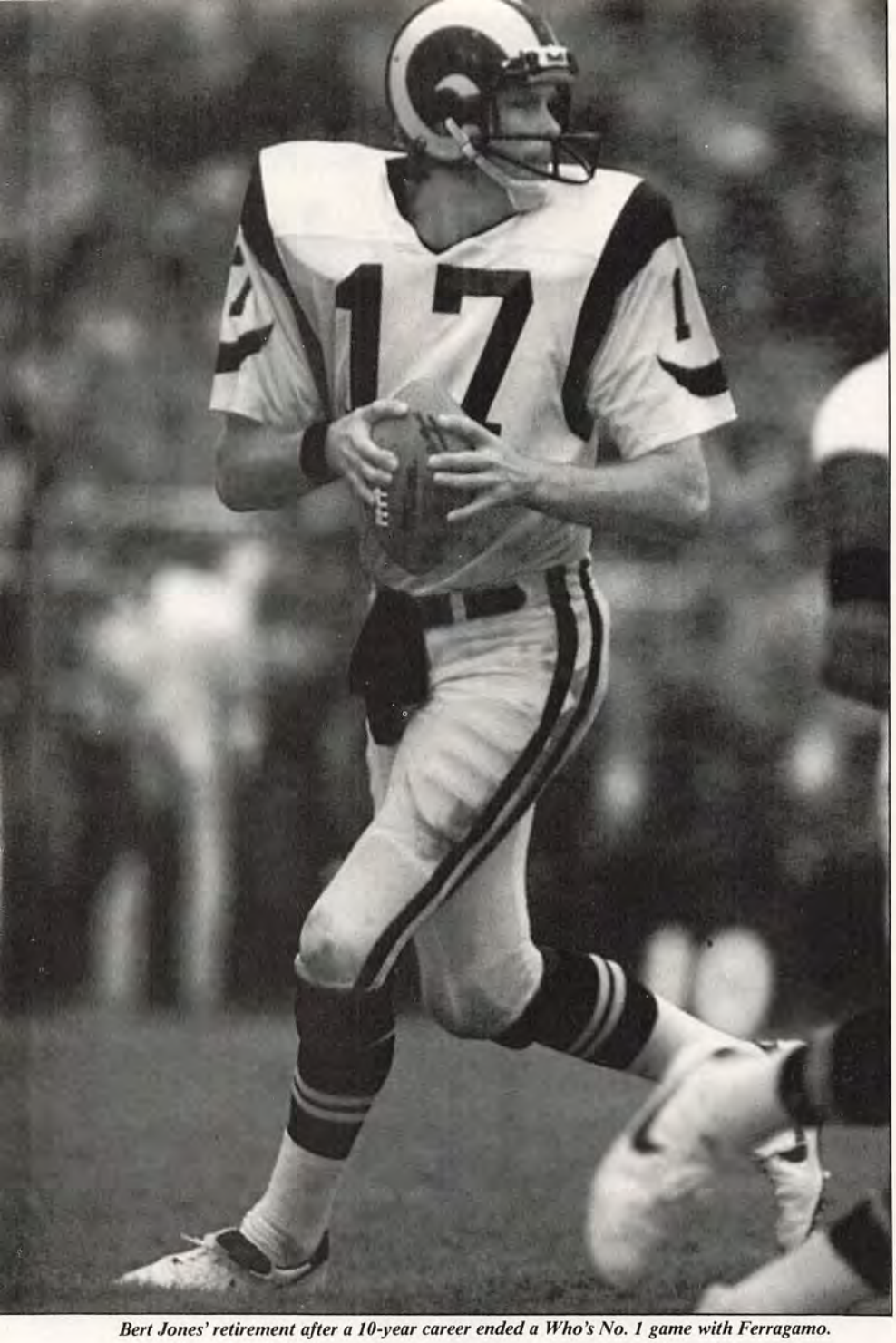
Dec. 5, 1979: Malavasi says Ferragamo is still the starter.

Jan. 24, 1980: Vince has excellent effort as Rams bow to Steelers in Super Bowl XIV, 31-19.

(continued)



Vince Ferragamo finished with a bang last season and figures he's the Ram QB of the future.



Bert Jones' retirement after a 10-year career ended a Who's No. 1 game with Ferragamo.

(Ram Quarterback continued)

Aug. 11, 1980: Ferragamo throws three TD passes as Rams win in Anaheim Stadium debut.

Aug. 30, 1980: Ferragamo hit by mystery ailment before final preseason game against San Diego. Haden leads Rams to 34-17 win over Chargers and Malavasi says Haden is No. 1 quarterback for regular season.

Sept. 7, 1980: Rams lose opener to Lions 41-20. Haden fractures finger, out indefinitely. "I don't like getting it this way," Ferragamo says. "I could throw eight touchdown passes and when Pat comes back he'd be the quarterback."

Sept. 8, 1980: Vince walks out in contract dispute, claiming he's making only $52,000 a year and wants between $250,000 and $400,000.

Sept. 10, 1980: Ferragamo returns. "I'm here to play football. I'll leave the business affairs to my attorney, Paul Caruso."

Sept. 11, 1980: Rams lose to Tampa Bay 10-9 as Vince is intercepted four times.

Sept. 16, 1980: Caruso announces Ferragamo has reached agreement on a contract, three years for $750,000.

Sept. 17, 1980: Ferragamo fires Caruso, claiming attorney and club are trying to cheat him.

Nov. 3, 1980: Ferragamo throws for five TDs in 45-31 win over Saints. Angry when Haden finishes game for him, he says, "They never took Pat out when he was No. 1."

Dec. 8, 1980: *Sports Illustrated* story says: "Quarterback Vince Ferragamo is No. 1 complainer on a Ram team riddled with discontent."

Dec. 28, 1980: Dallas eliminates Rams in playoffs, 34-13.

Jan. 27, 1981: Ferragamo says he's going to Canada, talks to Hamilton Tiger Cats.

Feb. 13, 1981: Deal with Tiger Cats off.

April 27, 1981: Ferragamo signs two-year contract with Montreal Alouettes for $1 million plus percentage of gate.

June 8, 1981: Vince throws three interceptions in Canadian debut. He finishes season with 25 interceptions, winds up on bench and is dropped from traveling squad.

April 27, 1982: Rams acquire Bert Jones from Colts for first- and second-round draft choices.

May 29, 1982: Story says Ferragamo's net profit from $450,000 salary with Alouettes—after taxes and legal fees—came to $1,578.

July 7, 1982: Ferragamo signs with Rams for $350,000 a year for three years. Says he won't rock boat.

July 9, 1982: Says Vince: "I don't like playing backup. Let the fans decide."

July 14, 1982: Jack Faulkner of Rams' front office says, "Bert Jones is our quarterback."

July 15, 1982: Malavasi says Ferragamo will get shot at quarterback job.

Sept. 12, 1982: Jones opens season for Rams in 35-23 loss to Green Bay.

Sept. 19, 1982: Ferragamo replaces Jones in second half of 19-14 defeat by Lions.

Nov. 28, 1982: Ferragamo replaces Jones, who had suffered neck and shoulder injuries a week earlier in 34-17 loss to Atlanta, and finishes 20-14 win over Kansas City.

Dec. 26, 1982: Ferragamo throws for 509 yards in 34-26 loss to the Bears, second-highest one-game passing yards total in NFL history.

Jan. 2, 1983: Ferragamo finishes season with 5,783 career yards, sixth on the all-time Ram list, and with a career completion percentage of 56.3, best in club history. Voted MVP by his teammates.

So there you have it.

But what will 1983 bring? Will new Coach John Robinson go through the Who's No. 1 game with Ferragamo again? Not likely. Jones underwent neck and back surgery during the off-season, and finally, in late May, he retired. Meanwhile, a hale and hearty Ferragamo looks to 1983 full of confidence. He knows he's back where he belongs.

"I think the fans have always treated me well in Los Angeles," Ferragamo says. "They enjoy my style and the way I play the game. I think my talents are more suited to the team."

END

GLENMORE PRESENTS

Great Celebrations of College Football 1983

Advertisement

The first Saturday in September is too late. Plan all football parties in August.

The 1983 college football season looks wide open. The Great Celebrations—Georgia vs. Florida, Texas vs. Oklahoma, Ohio State vs. Michigan, to name a few—have set the example for fast-growing traditions gaining momentum at many other schools.

With college football enthusiasm at a peak in the early fall, planning a celebration at home, reserving your favorite hotel room or nailing down a table in the right dining spot will be tough in September and October.

Take a tip from experienced football fans. . . . Plan in August.

Something else the long-time fan understands: A Great Football Celebration is enhanced by the spirits and wines from Glenmore.

On the following pages, Glenmore highlights five traditionally great rivalries and celebrations. Following each retrospective view are both casual and elegant refreshment ideas for toasting your team.

Glenmore wishes your team good luck!

Georgia-Florida

As any Southerner can tell you, Georgia and Florida always show up on the floor of the Gator Bowl on an early Saturday in November. The party-goers always show up on the preceding Wednesday. And the game is always 60 minutes of high drama.

Unforgettable? Each game is usually remembered only until the teams tee it up the next year. But check around the clubs and cafes and plantations around Georgia and Florida, and you'll still hear ballads to Buck Belue, Herschel Walker, Charley Trippi and Steve Spurrier.

Even the old-timers are talking about the 1980 game, which symbolized all the desperation, all the intensity and all the no-prisoners-taken quality of this series.

Belue, the Georgia quarterback, seemed trapped deep in his own territory, trapped by Florida defenders and trapped by a touchdown which had shoved the Floridians ahead 21–19 moments earlier.

Suddenly, Belue found an open man. He threw to Lindsay Scott at about the Georgia 30. Scott raced to a touchdown, completing a 93-yard play, and the Bulldogs won 26–21. There hadn't been such a sigh of relief in Georgia since General Sherman left the state.

The series started in 1904, a long time before the Southeastern Conference opened for business in 1933. Few rivalries have been closer or more enduring.

Enjoy this heart of the southland rivalry with these refreshing drink ideas:

The Rebel Charge—Mix 1 T. lemon juice, 1 T. orange juice, ½ egg white, 1 oz. Old Kentucky Tavern Bourbon Whiskey, ½ oz. Old Mr. Boston Triple Sec into a shaker. Shake with ice. Strain into old-fashioned glass over ice cubes. Add orange slice and rebel yells.

The Flamingo—Add juice from ½ a lime to a shaker with ½ oz. Old Mr. Boston Apricot Flavored Brandy, 1½ oz. Old Mr. Boston Dry Gin and 1 tsp. Grenadine. Shake with ice. Strain into cocktail glass and cheer for your favorite.

Army - Navy

Throw out the book. Mix two teams, up to their epaulets in adrenaline. Stir thousands of Cadets and Midshipmen with thousands of Army men and Navy men around the globe, a cocktail in one hand, a fistful of pride in the other. And a football game of sheer uncertainty is guaranteed.

They were playing the Army–Navy game when soldiers were on horses and sailors were in wooden ships. They were playing on a field in Annapolis where punts and field goal kicks had to be fished out of Chesapeake Bay before the game could continue.

For almost a century, they've been playing with the greatest invention and daring ever seen on college football fields. Navy once won three games in a row without scoring a touchdown. Army had a defense for everything but a field-goal kicker.

During World War II, the West Pointers weren't allowed to travel, so President Roosevelt invented a cheering section for them. He made half the Brigade of Midshipmen cheer for Old Army. They didn't cheer loud enough: Navy won anyway 14–0.

The game has been the exciting fusion of All-America careers. Glenn Davis and Doc Blanchard ran wild for Army. Joe Bellino and Roger Staubach shone for Navy in this spectacular series.

To this day, Roger Staubach's most vivid flashback from his long and eventful career is the goosebumps he experienced at the moment the Navy team left Annapolis for the meeting with Army. The Midshipmen sent them on their great mission with loud cheers, even some tears.

Old soldiers and sailors never die without thinking about the 1946 game, played before 101,000 in Philadelphia. Army was a 30-point favorite and led 21–6 at the half. Navy made a stirring comeback and was within 21–18 with 90 seconds left and had the ball on Army's 3-yard line. Army held. College football historians call it one of the greatest games ever played.

Navy barely leads the series, played since 1890, 39–37–7.

Celebrate the holidays and a touchdown with:

The Artillery—Mix 1½ oz. Old Mr. Boston Dry Gin and 1½ tsp. Sweet Vermouth with 2 dashes Angostura Bitters. Stir with ice and salute.

Seaboard—Mix 1 T. lemon juice, 1 tsp. powdered sugar, 1 oz. Old Thompson Blended Whiskey and 1 oz. Old Mr. Boston Dry Gin into a shaker. Shake with ice and strain into old-fashioned glass over ice. Decorate with mint leaves.

Advertisement

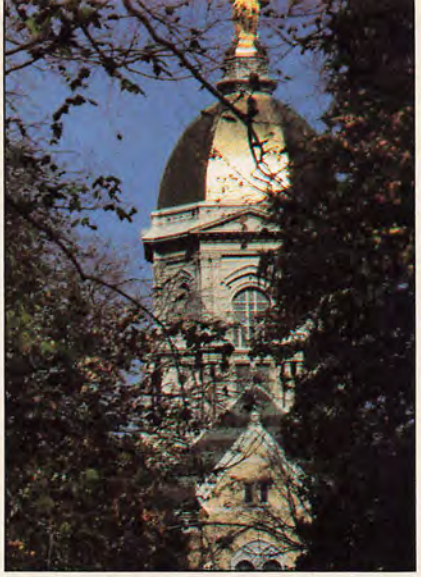
Notre Dame - USC

Everyone who saw the game wondered. All 83,000 of them wondered. Did this game come from a Hollywood director's imagination or merely from the talents of college football players?

It was 1974 and Notre Dame was bruising Southern California 24–0. Southern Cal was on the way to Shutout City, and the fans at the Coliseum in Los Angeles yawned and began working on their tans.

Suddenly, the magic of the USC–Notre Dame rivalry came alive. USC scored 55 points in 32 minutes and won 55–24. Who would have thought it could happen? But you don't *think* when you watch one of these productions. You just enjoy them and try to believe them.

This contest did not spring from a wild Hollywood imagination but rather from that of a newspaperman. A Los Angeles columnist, asked how Southern Cal could acquire nationwide attention, had one word of advice: Rockne. Get Knute Rockne's team on the schedule and it guarantees instant recognition across the country.



USC and Notre Dame made their first date in 1926, and Californians saw the lure of Notre Dame when 12 trainloads of Irish fans pulled into the station at Los Angeles.

The series was an instant success. Not only did the Irish fans enjoy the long party on the train en route to the West Coast, but also fans on both sides enjoyed a hot and closely played rivalry from the very beginning.

Notre Dame won three of the first four games, all by one point. Since the first game, 53 have been played and nine have been decided by three or less points. The series stands: Notre Dame 27 wins, 23 losses, 4 ties.

One intriguing characteristic of the rivalry has been revenge. The Irish walloped the Trojans 51–0 in 1966 but lost 24–7 the next year. Southern Cal won 25–0 in 1962, only a year after losing 30–0. Notre Dame won easily 49–19 in 1977 but lost a thriller the next year 27–25.

Whomever you toast, here are three easy to fix drinks. But don't take too long. These two teams can score 30 points while you're adding ice:

The Godfather—Add 1½ oz. Desmond & Duff Scotch Whiskey to ¾ oz. Amaretto di Saronno. Serve in an old-fashioned glass over ice.

For fast-moving refreshments, keep Old Mr. Boston Cocktails near the action. The Pina Colada or Tequila Sunrise is for West Coast fans.

Chill a bottle of Mr. Boston Peppermint Schnapps and serve on a tray with beer and cordial glasses.

Michigan-Ohio State

It's cold. There's frost. It's what millions of fans from Michigan and Ohio have been waiting for since the bumper stickers went on sale in August ("O How I Hate Ohio" is a popular number).

It's the last frosty breath of the football season. Ohio State and Michigan are at each other's throats in Ohio Stadium or Michigan Stadium. Standing room only at the pubs, in the parking lots and at the stadium.

What have they come to see? One of the biggest, loudest, best spectacles college football offers. Why is it what it is?

Maybe, the experts tell you, Ohio State and Michigan are the purest breds of the Big Ten showing off at the end of the season. Or maybe, an old-timer—a real old-timer—will tell you they haven't forgotten 1902. That's when Michigan won 86–0. That's why Ohio State swore to get even if it took 100 years.

Here it is more than 80 years later and they are still playing, maybe not to get even for 1902, nor improve on 1902, but just to get to go to a big bowl, preferably the one with the unmistakable fragrance of roses.

Now, the series is closer. In fact, Ohio State has won 15 of the last 25 games and tied one. But the Wolverines still lead 43–31–5.

"O how Ohio" learned the hard way about touchdowns. The Buckeyes were shut out in eight of the first nine games. But that was turn-of-the-century football when touchdowns were as hard to come by as cars and air-conditioning. Ohio State finally started winning and reeled off three straight victories beginning in 1919.

Michigan and Ohio State have been neck and neck—although they'd rather not be that cozy—the last 50 years. And since 1969, they've shared six Big Ten titles. A share usually has been won the hard way—on the frosty fields at Columbus or Ann Arbor.

For an elegant Rose Bowl Toast, simply add a strawberry to a sparkling glass of Torre Dei Conti Asti Spumante.

Here are four Glenmore big winners for casting off the cold:

Toison De Oro Brandy and a mug of coffee.

Thistle Cocktail—Add 2 dashes Bitters to 1½ oz. Sweet Vermouth and 1½ oz. Desmond & Duff Scotch Whisky. Stir with ice and strain into cocktail glass.

Brandy Toddy—Put lump of sugar into hot whiskey glass and fill two-thirds with boiling water. Add 2 oz. Mr. Boston Five Star Brandy. Stir and decorate with slice of lemon. Sprinkle nutmeg on top.

Rum Toddy—Made same as *Brandy Toddy* substituting 2 oz. Mr. Boston Rum.

Advertisement

Mandarine Napoleon
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PREMIUM BOURBON
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EXPRESSO
Deep Rich Coffee Flavor
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Texas - Oklahoma

It's early October and Dallas is hot and throbbing with social energy. The state of Oklahoma has poured into the city by car, bus, plane and by thumb.

A party brews in every hotel room, on every corner and in every club. But there's only one game in town—Texas vs. Oklahoma in the Cotton Bowl. Or, as it is sometimes called, the Red River Rumble or the Big Duel in Big D.

No one knows for certain who started this wild-West rivalry. Probably, two teams met and jumped out of their covered wagons and began to scrimmage. Texas and Oklahoma leaped at each other's throats in 1900, a few years before Oklahoma became a state. It only seemed natural for the territories north and south of the Red River to match their blooded heroes—the red-blooded ones from Oklahoma and the orange-blooded ones from Texas.

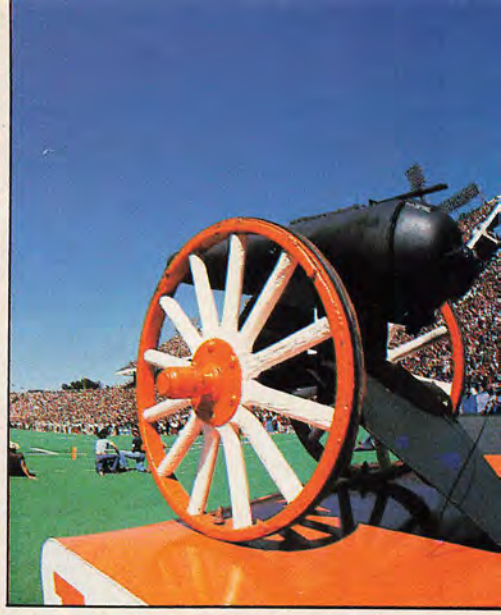
Everyone knows, though, what it has become—a frenzy of good-natured socializing and bad-natured football playing and a panorama of close, crazy and wild games, and even games on which careers have hinged. Coaches on both sides have lost their jobs over failure in Dallas. A referee who once had to escape by police car after a crucial call soon retired.

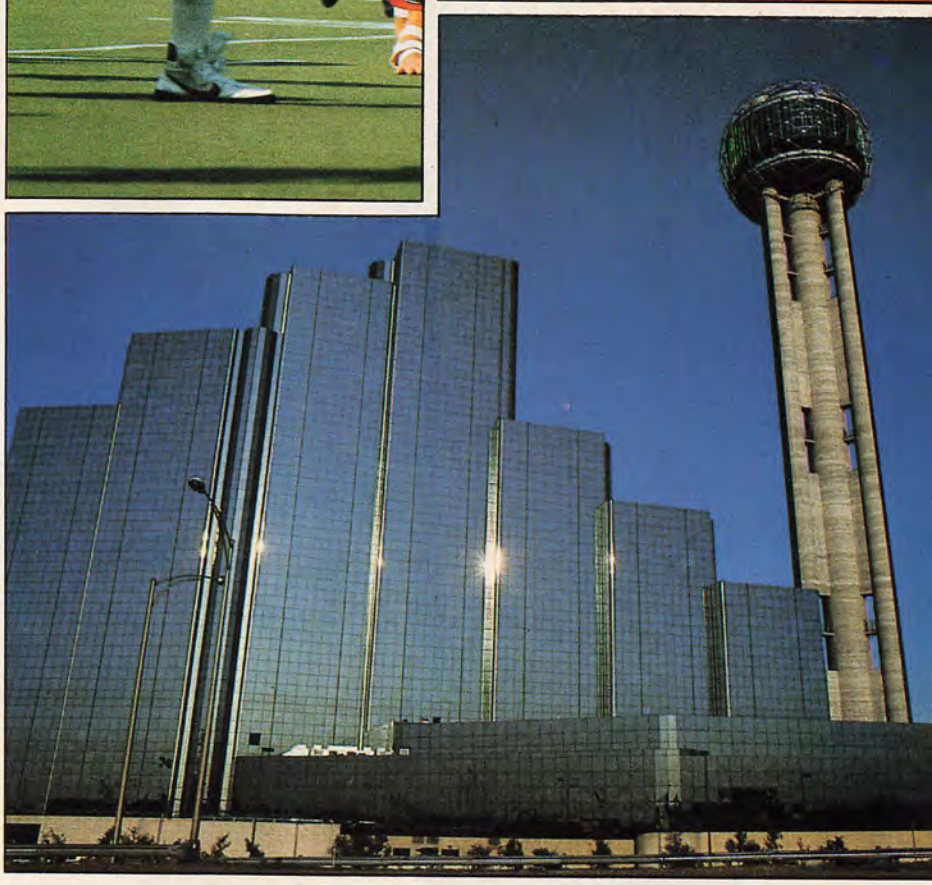
The series has made heroes for life. One of them was sainted on both sides of the Red River. Darrell Royal, an All-America quarterback at Oklahoma, clinched a Sooner win with a classic, long punt return in 1949. He came back in the late 1950s as the Longhorns' coach and sealed his career with an eight-game winning streak over the Sooners.

Royal knew what kind of a game it always was and always will be, and he knew how to describe it. "It's sweat on sweat and mean on mean," he once said. Another time he told one of his young players, "If you don't think those Sooners mean business, just look at their eyes—they'll be drawn up like BBs."

Texas leads the series 46–28–3.

On one side of the river, it's called OU–Texas Weekend. On the other, it's Texas–OU Weekend. It's a time to brag, a time to cheer, a time to celebrate.





You heard it here. . . . Texas and Oklahoma fans can be sophisticated. Two likely after-the-game favorites are Glenmore's Felipe II Brandy and Mandarine Napoleon.

Three favorites on both sides of the river:

The Margarita—Mix 1½ oz. Gavilan Tequila, ½ oz. Old Mr. Boston Triple Sec and 1 oz. lemon or lime juice. Shake with ice and strain into salt-rimmed glasses. Holler loud.

Cowboy Cocktail—Mix 1 T. sweet cream and 1½ oz. Old Thompson Blended Whiskey. Shake with ice and strain into cocktail glass.

Limestone—In ice-filled highball glass, pour 1½ oz. Yellowstone Bourbon, fill glass with collins mix and add lime juice.

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Advertisement

'Tell Me What You Eat'

Exotic Dishes of the Pros

by John Owen

Herschel Walker's somewhat hesitant start in pro football obviously surprised some expert observers. Only recently was a logical explanation provided.

So impressed was the football world with the credentials Walker assembled at the University of Georgia, nobody bothered to check on them first hand within the USFL until one lazy Easter afternoon in Phoenix.

Stretched out on the turf of Sun Devil Stadium after stopping Walker for a short gain, a defensive lineman for the Arizona Wranglers inspected the label on Herschel's trousers and made a startling discovery, which he transmitted to teammates in the very next huddle. Although Walker takes a 33 waist, he requires football pants with a 36-inch thigh. Further research at the next timeout disclosed that the New Jersey running back takes a 37 sleeve on his jersey and that his neck measures 18½ inches.

Well, the Wranglers quickly decided a man that size simply cannot be logically tackled, so Walker had his first 100-yard afternoon.

Nutritional scientists have since been laboring vainly in their attempts to learn why the forms annually stuffed into football uniforms continually grow longer, stronger and broad enough to wedge-block a herd of stampeding pachyderms.

The fact of the matter is that the equation was accurately propounded by a handicapper of the human race even before the transistorized birth of Jimmy the Greek, Howard the Humble or Phyllis, High Priestess of the Pigskin. Challenged Brillat-Savarin, the famous French writer and gourmet, "Tell me what you eat, and I will tell you what you are."

Fair enough. Herschel Walker confesses that he often skips both breakfast and lunch and that his favorite fare for an evening meal is hamburgers and fries.

Ergo, Herschel Walker is both a Whopper and a Big Mac and shows signs of becoming a Jumbo Jack.

Yr. Obdt. Correspondent once attempted to translate Brillat-Savarin's words into a foolproof handicapping formula for football during a late-summer Skywriters Tour of training camps, which offer the opportunity of lunch with athletes from a different team each day for a week.

The research material is still in my possession. However, I have not yet determined whether a French dip sandwich should rate a six-point edge over hot turkey. And, of course, the spread will also be influenced by side dishes like onion rings, shrimp salad and strawberry pie.

The emphasis on incidental details like those probably would spell the difference between a good football team and a great one. Eventually, I will doubtless discover how a cherry tart measures up against a brownie on third down and long yardage. Meanwhile, the research continues, confounded by contradictions.

For example, a former San Diego Chargers

tackle named Ernie Ladd once claimed title to the Caloric Championship of the World after eating another 300-pound trencherman under the groaning board. Ladd reportedly consumed in one sitting 10 steaks, enough prime ribs to construct four xylophones, two fried chickens, a pound of butter, three quarts of pop, a coconut cream pie and assorted side dishes.

Yet Fred Dryer, not long retired after a distinguished career as a defensive lineman with the Los Angeles Rams, told me his favorite meal is built like this: He slices two yellow onions, adds two heads of broccoli, two sliced carrots, a handful of cauliflower tops, a sliced stalk of celery, three sliced red rose potatoes, two handfuls of "beautiful bean sprouts," and sliced zucchini and crookneck squash. He steams all the ingredients, then lightly sprinkles them with olive oil, caraway seed and garlic powder.

Meat? Meat!

"I'd just as soon eat grass or go to the desert and live on lizards as eat steak and white bread," Dryer proclaims.

It's doubtful if Dryer learned these dietary laws from any NFL coach. Over the years, I collected some of the favorite recipes of pro football figures. And coaches, generally, seem to inhabit the Twinky and Ding Dong domain.

San Francisco 49ers Coach Bill Walsh's favorite dessert begins with eight whole graham crackers pulverized, then mixed with two tablespoons of melted butter all pressed into a nine-inch pie plate to form a crust. He then melts in a double boiler six ounces of semisweet chocolate morsels, a cup of evaporated milk, a cup of small marshmallows and when mixed smooth he allows the whole mess to cool. He then scoops a half quart of real vanilla ice cream, softened, into the crust and drizzles a layer of the cooled sauce over all, topping with a layer of pecans. After that he adds another half quart of ice cream, the rest of the sauce, more pecans and freezes the pie for three or four hours. An hour before he intends to eat it, Walsh removes the pie from the freezer to the refrigerator. If Dryer were sitting across the room, watching this culinary orgy, he'd probably be gumming an organic date.

Among the quarterbacks, Terry Bradshaw of the Pittsburgh Steelers is a gumbo freak, Steve Grogan of the New England Patriots is heavily into lasagna and Jim Zorn of the Seattle Seahawks is hooked on salmon. Southpaw Zorn lays a piece of foil over his barbecue fire, then pokes a few holes into it before plunking the salmon atop it, skin side down. He bastes with herb butter, cooks until the fish is light pink, and he swears that when you lift the salmon to a platter, the skin will stick to the foil and you won't have to worry about that.

I forget the name of the author who claims that real men don't eat quiche. It's a good thing I do forget his name, otherwise he'd be on the NFL hit list.

Minnesota Coach Bud Grant favors a bacon and mushroom quiche, Rick Moser of the Dolphins is an artichoke man and Jim Hart of the St. Louis Cardinals, who frequently throws the bomb, quite often also eats one.

He calls it a Jalapeno Pepper Pie, and it is hot enough to melt the snow covering Curly Lambeau Field in Green Bay. Hart greases a Pyrex pie pan with butter and then lines it with chopped jalapeno peppers after discarding the seeds. He adds a half pound of grated

(continued on page 100)

TAMPA BAY

Jimmie Giles may be the only National Football League player who can say for certain that he will be heavily involved in Super Bowl XVIII.

Tampa is the site of the Jan. 22, 1984, NFL championship game.

Giles is the prototype, Pro-Bowling tight end of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. He also owns and operates Jimmie Giles Limousine Service. Few sports events create the demand for limos that the Super Bowl does.

"So, I can't lose," says player-businessman Giles. "Of course, it would be a quiniela payoff for me if the Bucs make it, but if we don't, I still have a win ticket with the limo service. Potential customers are already checking us out."

Giles got into the limo field three years ago in partnership with a friend. Since then he and his wife Vivian have bought the partner out and operate the rental agency themselves. It's a step up, he says, from managing a hamburger stand when he was a rookie tight end for Houston in 1977.

"When he catches a ball in the open field and turns toward the goal line, well, let's say I'd hate to be a defensive back with Jimmie bearing down on me."

Giles learned the work ethic early as one of six children growing up in Mississippi. He works as hard off the field as on, as hard in practice as he does in a game. He seeks to become All-Pro, not just All-NFC, seeks to do what he can to win a Super Bowl ring, seeks to emerge as a prospering businessman in life after football.

He is a three-piece suit man, a strong family man, a strong team man, a talent envied. He is precisely what Coach John McKay thought he would be when he struck the much-publicized deal that brought to the Bucs the tandem of Doug Williams and Giles.

"Giles is a complete tight end, not just a partial one," says McKay. "He is the right size, smart, unafraid, likes to block and blocks well, and when he catches a ball in the open field and turns toward the goal line, well, let's say I'd hate to be a defensive back with Jimmie bearing down on me. He had the size and potential when we got him from Houston. He has put it to use as we expected he would."

Giles has become a key to Buc successes of recent years. Since he and Williams arrived in 1978, Tampa Bay has won a division championship and three times made the playoffs. Yet, but for a series of happenchances, Giles may have been playing baseball instead of football, and but for the Oilers' compulsion to have Earl Campbell, he might still have been catching passes and selling hamburgers in Houston.

"I don't think many people know it, but I played only a little football in junior high, then none in high school until my senior year," says Giles. "I played third base in Greenville (Miss.). I had a baseball scholarship to Alcorn State and played baseball there. I really didn't like what I saw in football at Alcorn. They practiced twice a day the year around, or so it seemed.

"Well, my junior year there, I remember, I was sitting in a trailer we lived in off campus watching TV. An announcer came on and said Alcorn State and Grambling would open the next season in the Superdome in New Orleans. Something came over me. I jumped straight up. I said I was going to play in that Superdome. I went out for football practice the next day, jumped high and caught a pass over three guys. The coach, Marino Casem, came to me and said, 'Boy, oh boy, you look real good. You can make this team.'"

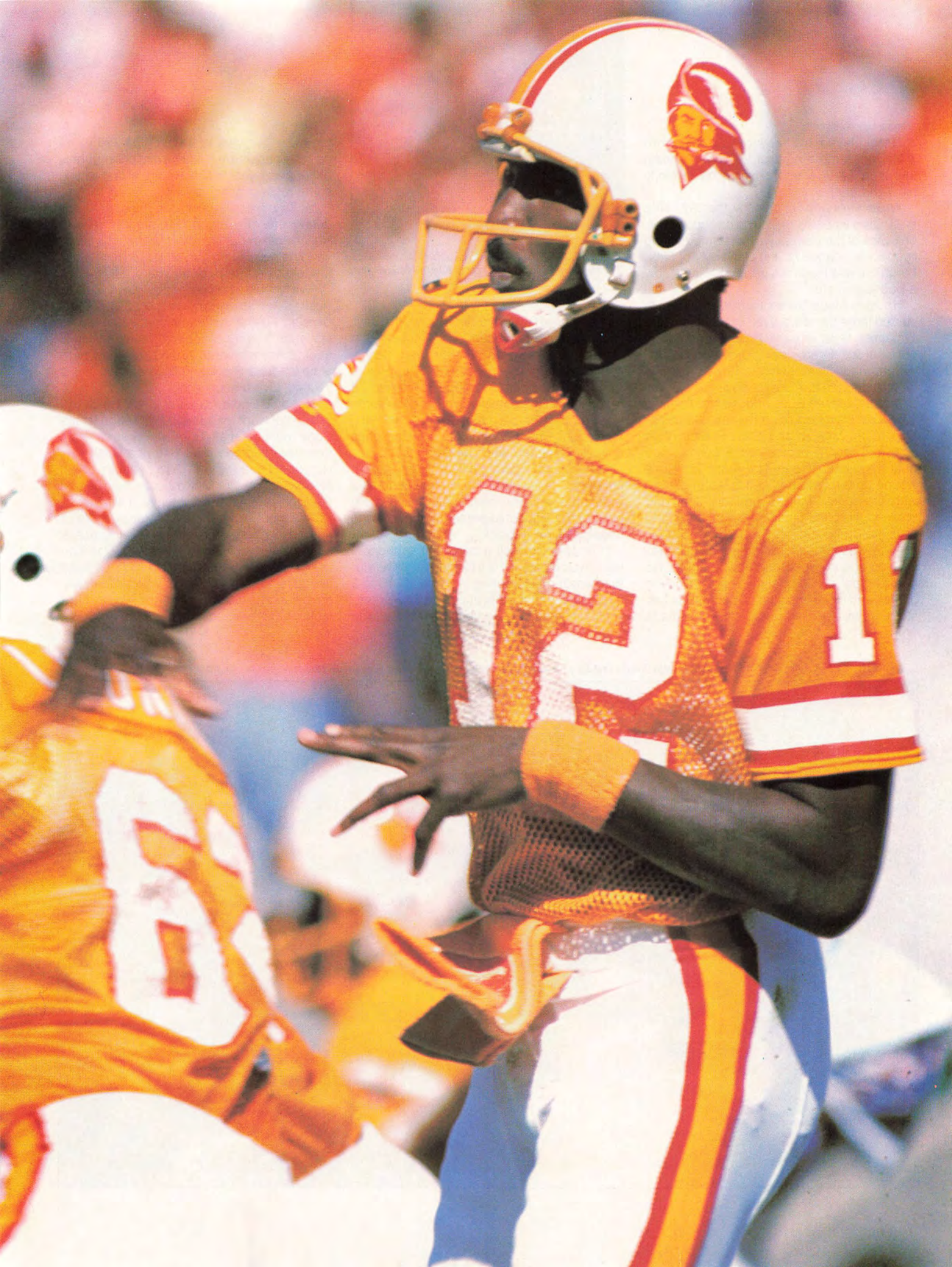
Giles made the team, all right. He started that first game of the 1975 season in the Superdome for Alcorn State against Grambling, quarterbacked by Williams.

Giles had already been drafted by the Los Angeles Dodgers as an outfielder-third baseman. He received a $10,000 bonus and $500 a month to play in a rookie league in Washington.

"I really didn't do that well," says Giles. "I went home to marry Vivian during the season and kept hearing a football scout named John Carson tell me that I would be in the NFL next year after he timed me in 4.55 in the 40."

(continued)

If Tampa Bay makes the playoffs, it'll be the fourth time in the last five years with Doug Williams at quarterback.



TD by Jimmie Giles (left) rates Kevin House's tap.

(Tampa Bay continued)

Giles played his senior year at Alcorn State, once more against Williams, winning this time 24-0, a score which he reminds his friend of often.

While waiting in Natchez for the 1977 NFL draft, Giles worked out playing pickup basketball. One of the players was a talented young linebacker headed for the University of Pittsburgh. He was Hugh Green, like Williams now a Buc teammate.

Houston made Giles a third-round pick. He started three games, played in 14 and caught 17 passes. Giles was a raw talent, a marvelous physical specimen, playing largely on instinct. He had had little coaching. He was learning football and the hamburger business.

McKay and the Bucs had the No. 1 pick in 1978. One player would not mean a championship team. McKay and Bum Phillips (then Houston coach) engineered a complicated deal. It has been debated for years. The Bucs wound up with Williams and Giles, the Oilers with Campbell. McKay had his tight end choice. "It is clear I made the right decision," says the Buc coach.

Giles was a rough jewel that has been refinished and polished and now sparkles. He has played in 73 straight regular-season games and three postseason games. He has started virtually all of those. He has made All-NFC three times and been to the Pro Bowl, including the most recent.

Last season, Kellen Winslow, San Diego's tight end, caught 54 passes for 721 yards, a 13.4 yards-per-catch average. Giles had 28 receptions in the bobtailed year for 499 yards and a 17.8 yards-per-catch average. In 1981, his average was 18.9 yards. Giles seldom goes down immediately when he catches a ball.

"Kellen and I operate differently in different offenses," says Giles. "He is often used as a wide receiver. And he certainly is a great player. I block about 65 percent of the time and I like that. I like to block.

"I consider myself a complete tight end. I want to be the best. I like to think I work harder than anyone else during practice. If I have a bad game, that means I have had bad practices, but then that seems to be the way with the Bucs. We look to be better in 1983. Our younger people are maturing and Williams gets better every year. I think we are at last getting some respect nationally."

McKay made major coaching changes during the off-season. He brought in Kim Helton from the University of Miami to be offensive line coach and moved Boyd Dowler into the role of quarterback tutor.

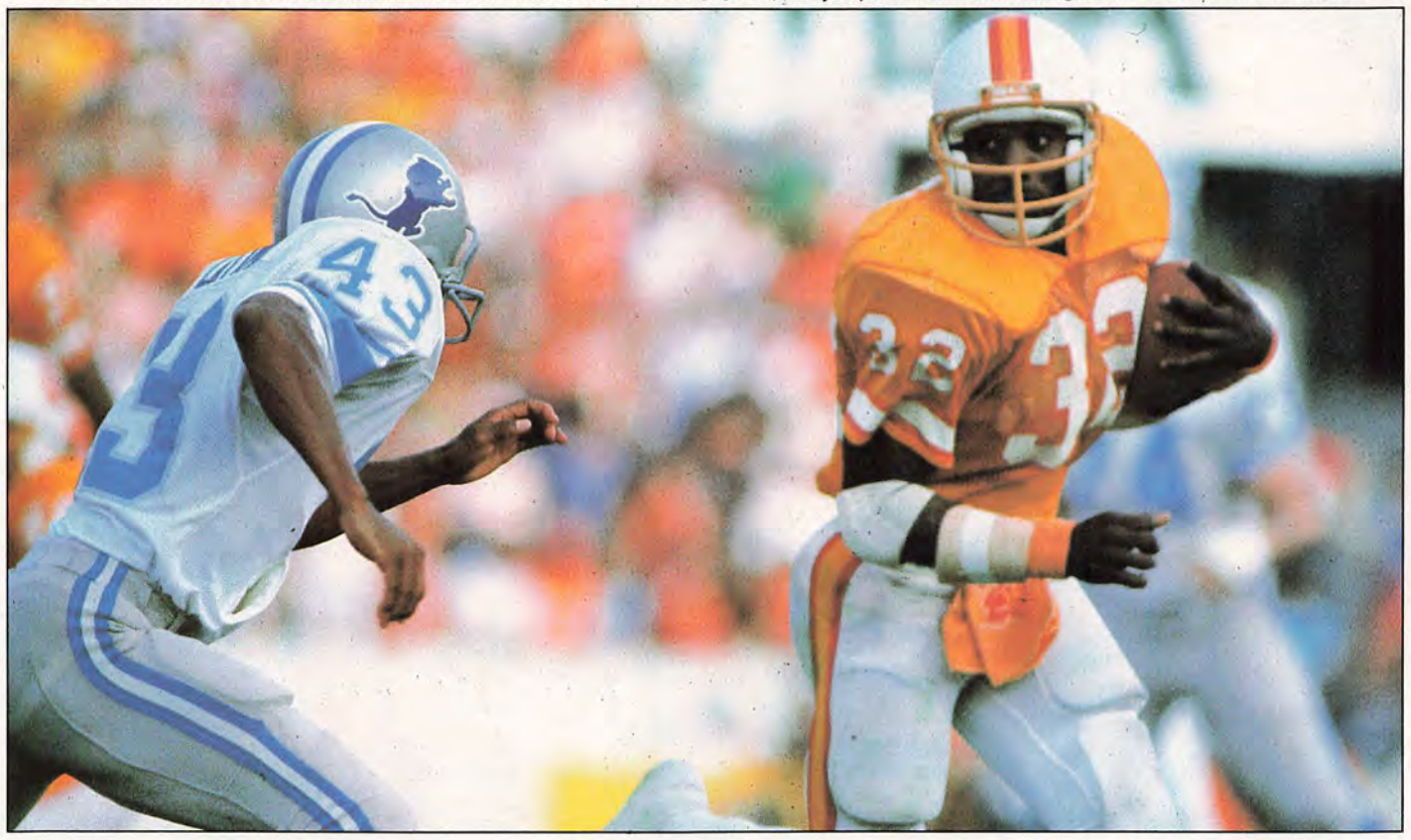
"We should contend again," says McKay, "just as will everybody in the NFC Central Division. Four of our teams made the playoffs last year. The old Black and Blue Division is about the most even in the NFL right now, but it is no longer a Black and Blue division. It is a youthful division of speed."

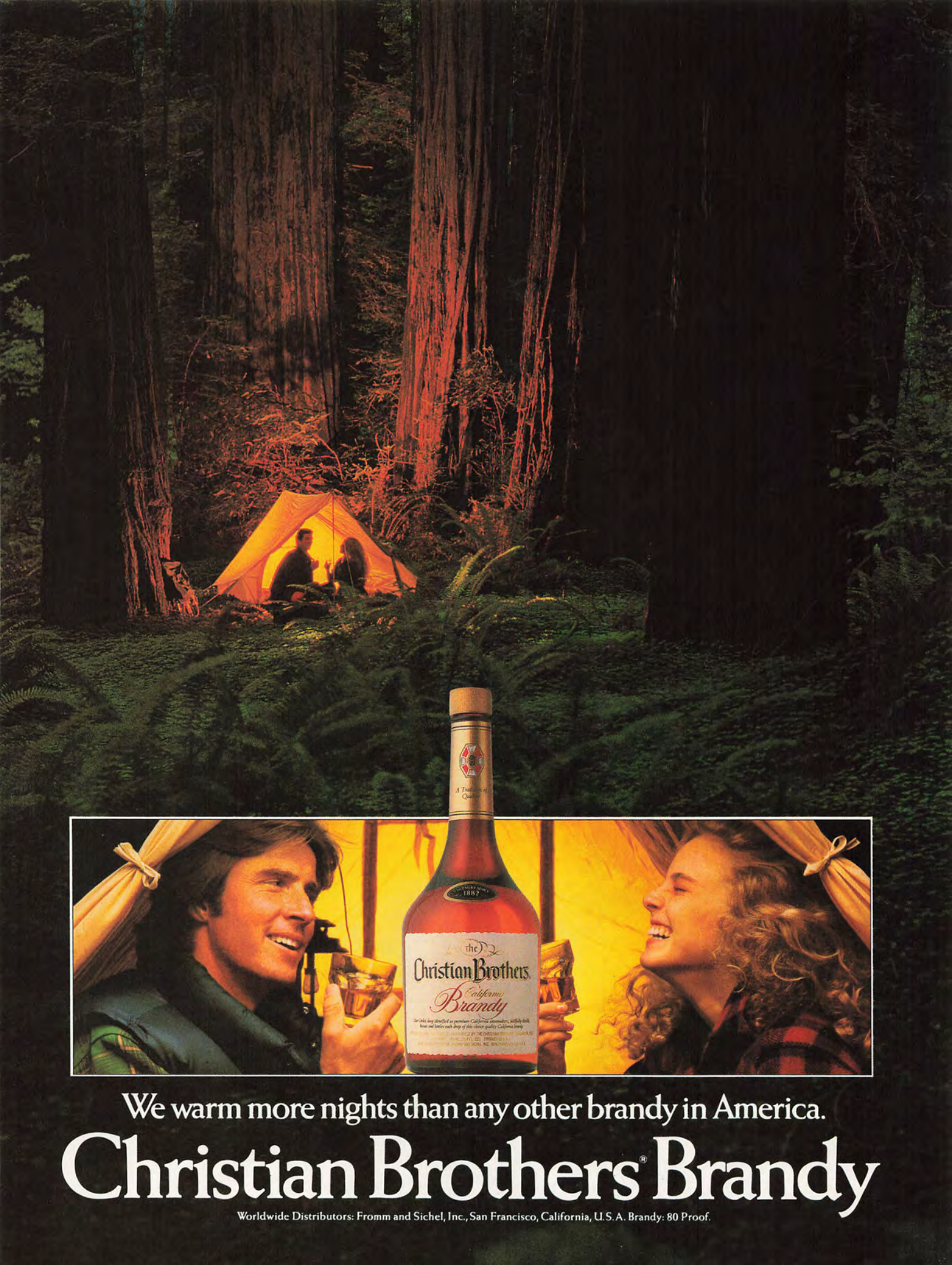
Tampa Bay did not have a No. 1 pick this year. That went to Chicago a year ago for the Bucs' right to draft Booker Reese, a giant defensive lineman from Bethune-Cookman. He played sparingly in 1982 because of the struck season, but McKay does not rue that decision, one on which the jury is still out.

"We'll be in there," says McKay. "We've come a long way—three playoffs in four years, and I think now I can say without equivocation that the trade to Houston that brought us those two guys, Williams and Giles, who, incidentally, have become the best of friends, was as big a factor in our swift advancement as any."

END

Clearly, Coach John McKay is satisfied with James Wilder (3.9-yard average per try last year) and other Buc running backs since only one was drafted.





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USFL Future? Uncertain

by Leonard Shapiro

It began as a dream for David Dixon, a New Orleans art dealer and football fan.

And when that dream became reality one rainy day last March, Dixon stood on the sidelines and cried tears of joy as he watched the birth of the United States Football League at Washington's RFK Stadium. There were 40,000 people in the stands. Millions more watched on national television.

The USFL was Dixon's idea and it took almost 20 years to get it done. "In the early 1960s, we sensed great progress in the National Football League and wanted to get a team in New Orleans," he says. "We knew the NFL would never expand willingly, so we began to talk about starting a new league in the spring.

"I went out to visit Paul Brown, who was in LaJolla (Calif.) at the time. After two days, he told me, 'Don't ever let anybody talk you out of this idea.' I also talked to Gussie Busch and Walter O'Malley.

"We envisioned a six-team league and had the networks interested. All of a sudden, the television people stopped talking to us. I smelled a rat and sure enough, New Orleans and Atlanta were granted NFL franchises. That killed two of our prime cities so I just tucked my idea away in mothballs."

Dixon took it out two years ago. The result, of course, was the United States Football League, an idea whose time had come, what with the phenomenal popularity of the NFL, competition for new programming both on network and cable television, and a theory that football in the spring would fill a definite void.

"I could see cable becoming a real force on a national basis, and I thought, at last, there is some competition for the three networks, all of which are getting a piece of the NFL pie," Dixon says. "At first blush, everyone said football in the spring wouldn't work. But real football fans didn't complain.

"That's like saying you're only going to make love in the fall. If you enjoy something, why wouldn't you want more of it? In the spring, we've got a shot at all the fans, and that's what we're counting on."

Dixon went around the country spreading his gospel. Investors were quick to rally to his side. And these were no get-rich-quick types; they had solid financial credentials and were, in fact, some of the wealthiest men in America.

Original requirements for membership included a $1.5 million letter of credit and a guarantee of $6 million. Each team was told to be prepared to lose as much as $4 million in the first three years.

Consider a few of the owners: Alfred Taubman of Detroit, called the wealthiest man in Michigan; Marvin Warner, owner of the Birmingham franchise and chairman of a bank holding company; Bill Daniels, owner of the Los Angeles Express and a cable television entrepreneur in Denver.

Even before one football was thrown in the air, the new league got another major lift in credibility when it signed a two-year, $20 million television contract with the ABC network and another $10 million deal with ESPN cable, meaning nationwide television exposure as many as three times a week.

ABC got interested in large part because of an extensive marketing survey financed by the USFL and conducted by researcher Frank Magid. His surveys indicated that 75 percent of the country's big-city adults consider themselves professional football fans, 76 percent would watch spring and summer football on television, 63 percent might attend in person and 53 percent prefer pro football to pro baseball on television during the spring.

There were other positive signs.

A number of highly regarded former NFL coaches and administrators quickly jumped to the new league.

George Allen, former Washington and Los Angeles coach, was a major investor and head coach of the Chicago franchise. Denver signed former Bronco Coach Red Miller to coach the Gold. Former New England Coach Chuck Fairbanks became a vice president

(continued on page 182)

Philadelphia's Kelvin Bryant rushed for more than 1000 yards in his and the USFL's "rookie" season.

NEW ENGLAND

Whatever problems may have surfaced such as difficulty of some of the players, especially the veterans, adjusting to first-year New England Coach Ron Meyer's system and the strict rules he imposed, it was a winning season for the Patriots.

With the complainers pacified and with a strong running attack and an aggressive defense that can only improve with age, the Patriots dream of duplicating the Washington Redskins' success of 1982.

If they do, it probably will be due in large measure to the efforts of linebacker Steve Nelson, a nine-year veteran who spearheads the defense.

Nelson also has become the inspirational focus of a defense that began last season with six new starters. Only 11-year veteran Julius Adams remained from 1981 defensive linemen. He was joined by six rookies or first-year players.

"I'm the cobra. Don Blackmon is the water moccasin. And Steve is the snake who isn't deadly but can kill the rattlers."

Nelson was the only returning starter among the linebackers. They improved steadily to the point where they felt comfortable enough to give themselves a nickname. They call themselves "The Rattlesnakes."

"That's what Nellie likes to call us because we're deadly," says Larry McGrew. "I'm the cobra. Don Blackmon is the water moccasin. And Steve is the snake who isn't deadly but can kill the rattlers."

Despite suffering from a shoulder injury all season that necessitated surgery last January, Nelson had one of his best years.

"We've got a signal caller in Nelson who is the greatest I've ever seen at making adjustments at the line," says Patriots' linebacker coach Steve Sidwell. "Last year was my first as a pro coach, but I don't think I've seen anyone in the league who plays the position better. Leadership like his is unbelievably important, especially for a young group like this. I don't know where we'd be if we didn't have Steve."

Nelson tries to downplay his role as elder statesman of the defense. "I've never thought of it in terms of being the old man of the defense," he says. "But then I stop and think about all the guys I've played with, and I have a lot of good memories. When I look around at all the kids I'm playing with, I realize I have a responsibility to the team to try and help them. I had rookies next to me, rookies in front of me, everywhere I looked.

"I was forced into a position where I had to be the leader on the field. I'm the one they expect to make the adjustments, and that's all I try to do.

"The problem playing with a lot of young players is that you really can't put in that much of a sophisticated system on defense. You can't get too complicated in the things you do, and that tends to take away some of your chances to make big plays.

"But as the season went on, they got much better. At the end, we still couldn't put in real tricky stuff. But with everyone having a year of experience, I think you'll see definite improvement."

A year ago, the Patriots made Kenneth Sims from Texas their No. 1 choice in the draft. Sims wasn't impressive in training camp, but by the end of the season he was playing up to the potential the Patriots saw when they drafted him.

"I think he realizes now that you just can't step into the league and be a star," Nelson says of Sims. "After the strike, he was almost a totally different player."

In 1981, the Patriot defense finished last against the rush in the NFL. It improved several notches in 1982 and also produced a pass rush that tackled opposing quarterbacks 20 times in nine games. In 1981, the Patriots had the same total but in a full 16-game schedule.

The Patriots got their usual excellent play from cornerbacks Mike Haynes and Ray Clayborn and were pleasantly surprised by the successful transition of Rick Sanford from strong to free safety. That move allowed Roland James to play his natural position—strong safety.

"We came a long way," says Haynes. "I think we can go even further. A lot

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Steve Nelson, from North Dakota State (class of 1974), is the Patriots' rallying point.

Riddell
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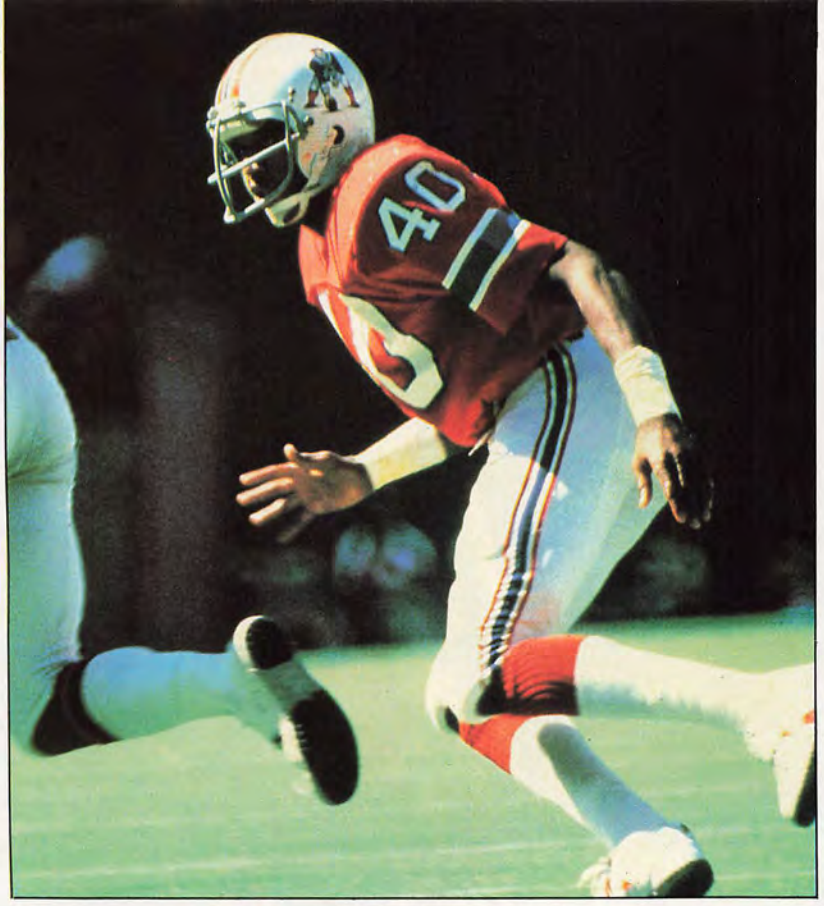


As a Patriot since 1975, Steve Grogan (above) has covered almost 10 miles on passes. Cornerback Mike Haynes (right) has 28 interceptions since '76. Defensive lineman Kenneth Sims should come into his own in his second year.

(New England continued)

depends on keeping our top veteran players and adding new blood. We have a young coaching staff, and I would hope we'd hold onto the coaches as well. There is no telling how far we can go."

The Patriots' offense—once a feared unit—had a roller-coaster season. And yet, when needed most, the unit produced 418 yards and 30 points to beat Buffalo in the final regular-season game. That victory put New England in the playoffs—only to lose to Miami 28-13—for the first time in four years.

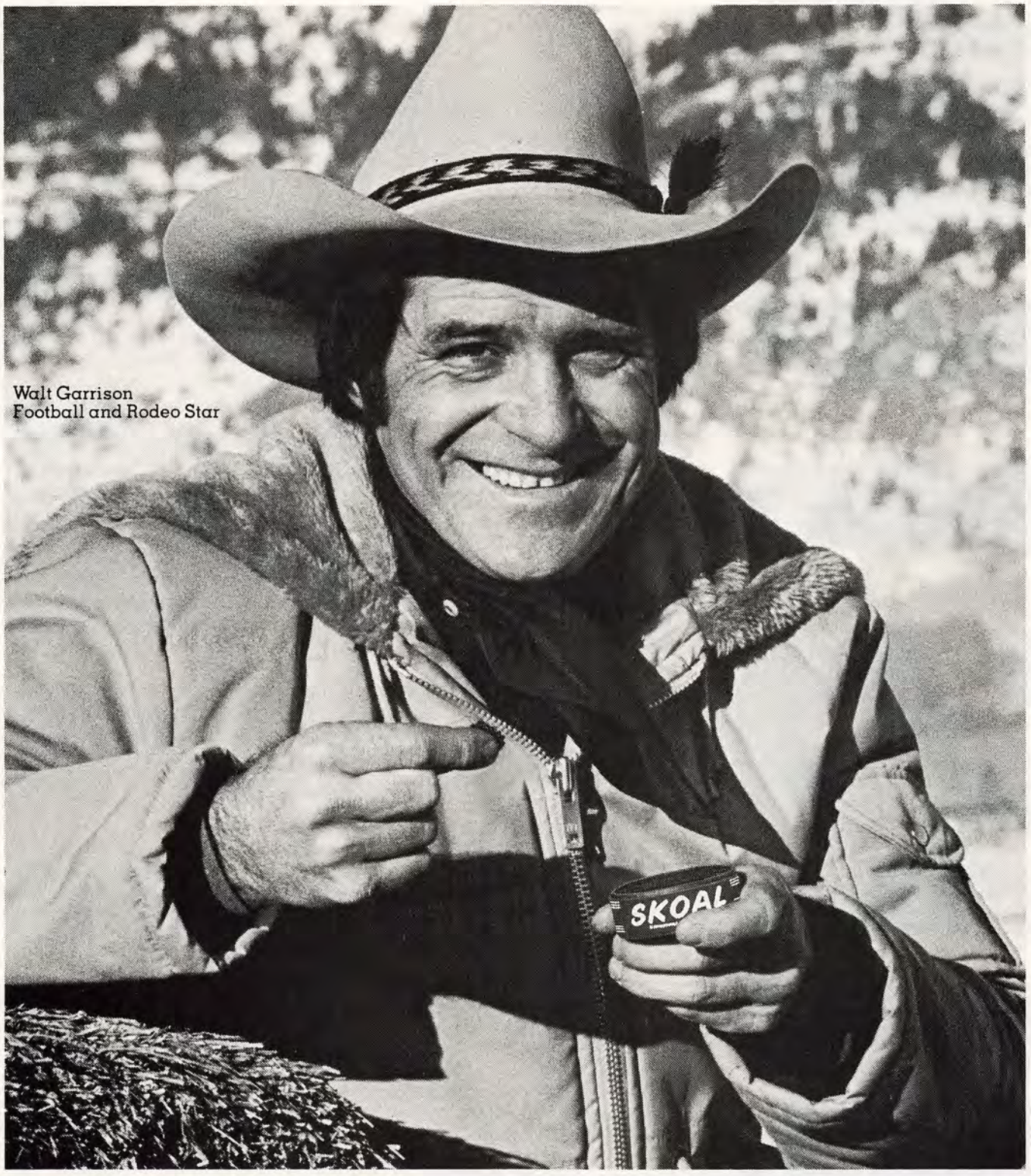
The Patriots got a major lift last year when they acquired veteran receiver Morris Bradshaw and running back Mark van Eeghen after the Raiders dropped them.

Van Eeghen, the Raiders' all-time leading rusher, picked up where he left off in Oakland. He gained 386 yards on 82 carries. He was also a dedicated blocker who helped tailback Tony Collins net 632 yards on 164 carries, fifth-best in the AFC. The Patriots were the second-best running team in the NFL behind Buffalo, averaging 150 yards.

The problem on offense was the passing attack, last in the league. Meyer started the year with Matt Cavanaugh at quarterback. Steve Grogan got the call in the final seven games. He finished with a 54 percent completion rate and threw for seven touchdowns, demonstrating again that despite bad knees, he can still play quarterback in the NFL. The Patriots won three of the last four games he started. Meyer says he'll be the starting quarterback this season.

A major question mark centers around the receivers. Wide receiver Stanley Morgan and tight end Don Hasselbeck were disenchanted

(continued on page 106)



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HOUSTON

The Houston Oilers struck bottom in the AFC Central last year, a shaky team caught in transition between the run-to-daylight philosophy of the 1970s and the retreat-and-throw style of the 1980s.

How bad were the Oilers? Even with Earl Campbell carrying the ball on seven out of every 10 running plays, they averaged only 88.8 yards a game on the ground. The young line gave up 39 sacks, second-highest total in the league. The defense, once a superb blend of speed and toughness, produced only three interceptions, two by linebackers Gregg Bingham and Robert Brazile. It was a league low.

There are problems almost everywhere, including an unsettled quarterback situation. But nowhere are they as bad as along the offensive line. Rookie Mike Munchak, a terrific guard prospect, broke a bone in his ankle in the third game. Veteran guard George Reihner came out of retirement and suffered back spasms in the second game. A free agent tackle, Ralph Williams, finally took over the guard spot.

The Oilers junked the I last year and went to a split-back, two-tight end alignment, which took away some of Campbell's power and feel for the defense.

Center David Carter, a former guard, replaced retired Carl Mauck two years ago and proved to be better than his coaches expected. Tackles Morris Towns and John Schuhmacher are marginal. Accordingly, quarterback Archie Manning was sacked 27 times in 24 quarters last year, and Campbell, who rushed for four consecutive 1000-yard seasons, gained only 538 yards in a 1-8 season and averaged only 3.4 yards per carry, a career low.

"We feel we have to continue to get more speed into our offense," concedes coach Ed Biles. "We need to continue utilizing different formations and different motions. We also have to utilize Earl Campbell's talents and abilities because he's an outstanding runner. We have to improve our line because if we are able to reduce the number of sacks allowed by 50 percent, we'll be a much improved team. We intend to move the ball and put points on the board, and there is no doubt in my mind in the ability of this club to do that."

The bottom of the Oilers' disastrous season came on national television, a shabby 37-7 loss to the Dallas Cowboys. "At certain points in the game," says Biles, "we almost played too hard." Biles meant that his players were recklessly free-lancing and trying to make big plays on their own. A week later, Houston was drubbed by the Philadelphia Eagles 35-14, and Campbell uttered his famous "get-me-out-of-here" speech.

Actually, Campbell was moved more by frustration than a genuine feeling that he no longer wanted to play in Houston. Who can blame him? The "Earl of Texas" endured a season of hard knocks behind that unsettled line.

Campbell isn't the most skilled receiver around (he has never caught a touchdown pass in his five-year career). In the '80s it helps if you have running backs with soft hands. Campbell is also more successful running out of the I-formation, where he can pick his holes and accelerate. But the I-set isn't the best passing alignment since it takes backs longer to get into their routes. The Oilers junked the I last year and went to a split-back, two-tight end alignment, which took away some of Campbell's power and feel for the defense.

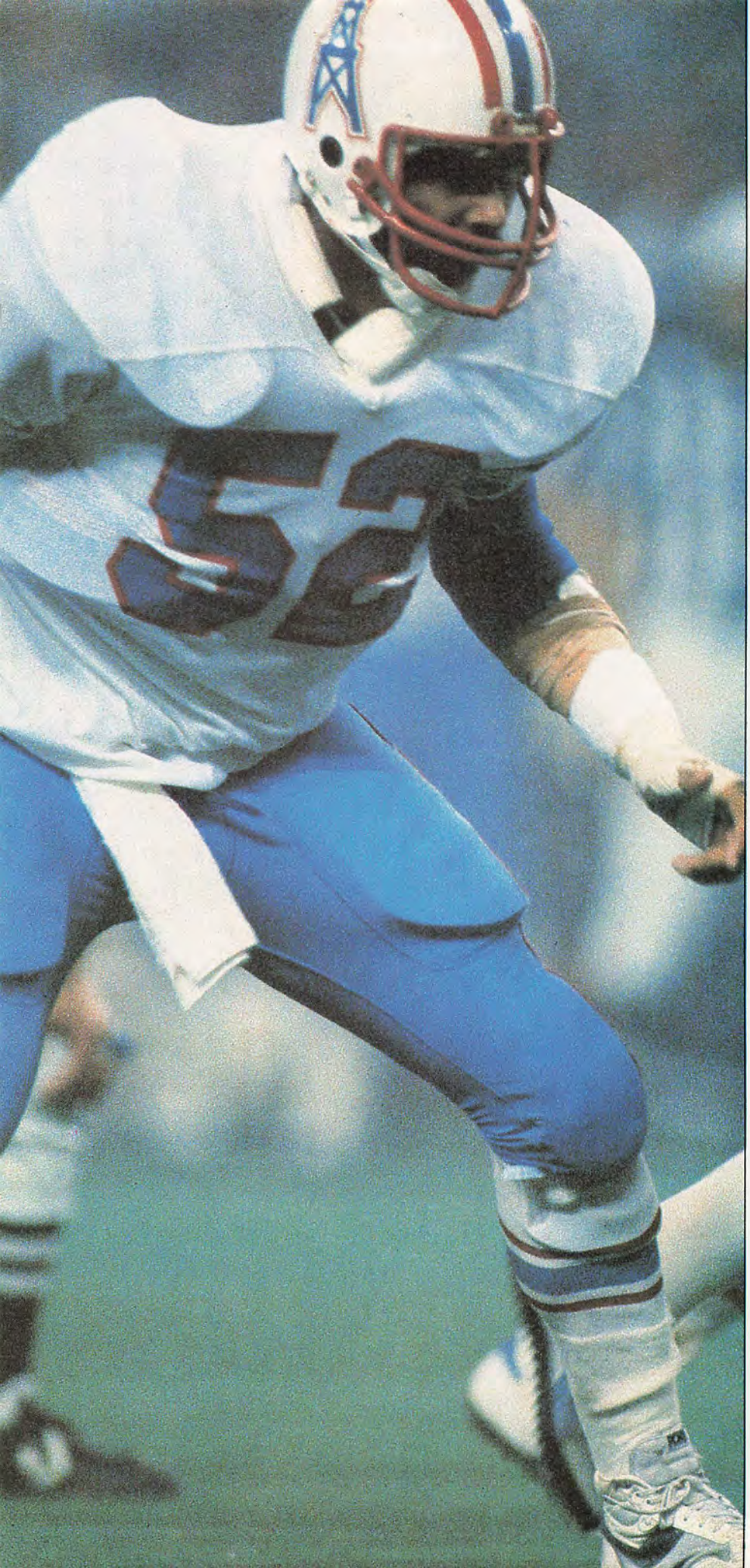
Wherever Campbell lines up, he is still one of the game's great backs. Biles admits that the Oilers must reshape their offensive line and settle on a starting quarterback before they can think about moving up in the highly competitive AFC Central.

"We're looking for a great deal of improvement from our line," says Biles. "We've made a coaching change at that position (bringing in Bill Walsh from Atlanta to replace Ray Callahan). And we have emphasized in the off-season to our linemen that they have got to work on the weights."

The Oilers made a significant step toward alleviating the situation by drafting Bruce Matthews of Southern California and Harvey Salem of California in the first and second rounds.

(continued)

Earl Campbell will be charging behind an improved Oilers' line this season.



Oiler linebacker Robert Brazile has been a Pro Bowl player for the last seven seasons.

(Houston continued)

As to the identity of the starting quarterback, Biles isn't tipping his hand. Presumably, 13-year veteran Archie Manning will go to camp as No. 1 and Gifford Nielsen as No. 2. They are opposites in style. Manning, even at 34 (and reportedly receiving a $600,000 salary), can still scramble. He got plenty of practice last year. Nielsen, a 6-5 pocket passer who wouldn't scramble with Randy White in his face, is strictly a dropback guy.

Says Biles: "Our decision on who will be the number one quarterback will be made after the first two preseason games. We'll be in a position of deciding then. We want to establish that before the end of camp. Both players have great qualifications. Manning has been in the league for a number of years, but he has not been through a training camp with us. Gifford, of course, came into last season as the projected starter and was able to move the team early. He had a minor injury on Thanksgiving Day and missed several games but finished strong against Cleveland and Cincinnati.

"Archie has good scrambling ability, while Gifford has the ability to remain in the pocket. Both young men are solid citizens, the type of leaders you need at this position. Oliver Luck, our rookie from last season, will certainly get some preseason time to see how far he's progressed. We think he is a fine young prospect."

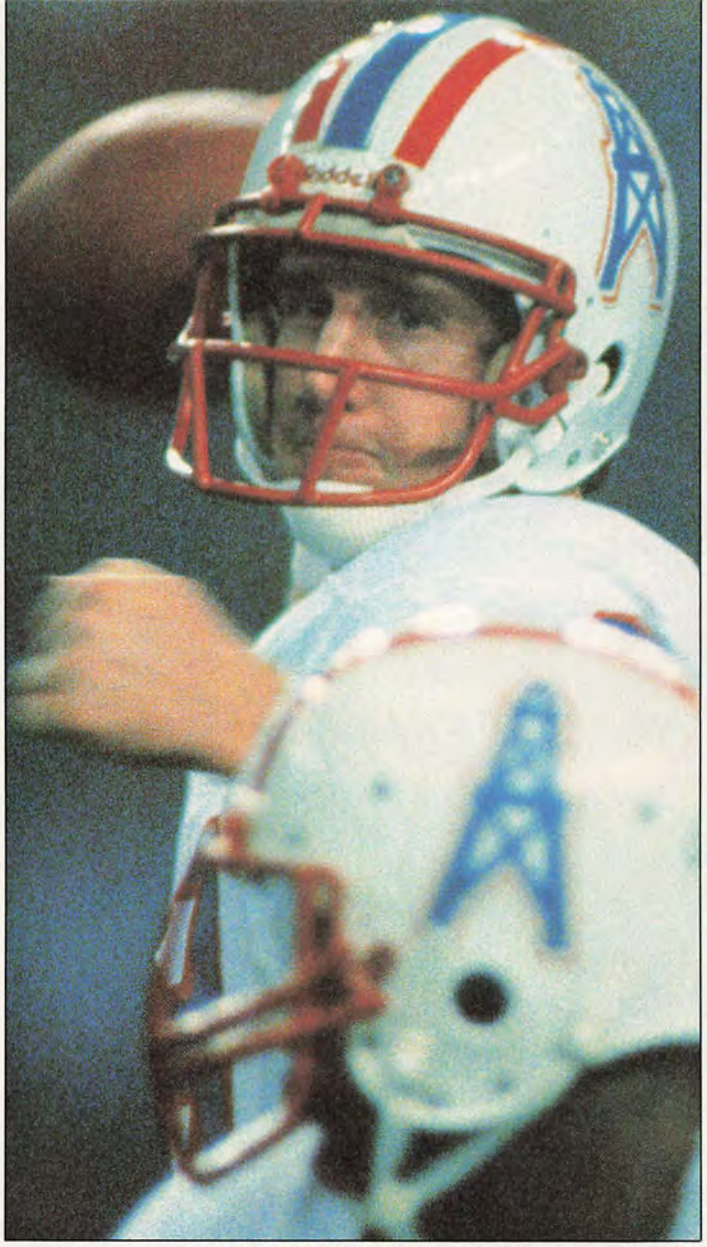
Biles hired Kay Dalton as Houston's new quarterback coach, which should help. Dalton knows all about the passing game, having coached in the Canadian League for five seasons, three of them as head coach at Montreal.

Manning, a 55.5 percent career passer with some bad New Orleans teams before last year, completed only 67 of 132 attempts (50.8 percent) and just six touchdowns. Nielsen was 87 for 161 (54 percent) for 1,005 yards, but he, too, had only six touchdown passes. Both were intercepted eight times.

The wide receivers will never win a track meet. Harold Bailey, a former running back at Oklahoma State, actually led the group last year with 26 catches. Veterans Mike Renfro and Ken Burrough were injured. Burrough, who caught 40 passes in both the 1979 and 1981 seasons, missed the entire year. He will be 35 this summer and doesn't figure in Oiler plans. Other ends include Mike Holston, a rangy kid from Morgan State, and Steve Bryant, fourth-round pick from Purdue in the 1982 draft. Bryant caught 60 passes as a senior.

The two-tight end offense showcased former All-Pro Dave Casper, who caught 36 passes for 573 yards and six touchdowns. "If you project those totals over a 16-game season," says Biles, "you would have 64 catches for 1,018 yards and 11 touchdowns. I don't think anyone has ever had those types of figures in a season and been totally ignored on the All-Pro teams. Dave has that special knack for getting open in crucial situations."

Casper, however, was one of the few Oilers



Archie Manning (left) goes into his 12th season. Defensive back Bill Kay hopes to crack the Oiler secondary as a starter.

who rarely worked out during the strike and was out of shape when the season resumed. Somehow, the city's sportswriters and broadcasters found a way to vote Casper as the outstanding Houston player, presumably because there were no other possibilities. "I want to thank my teammates for making all this possible," said Casper, obviously in a joking sense.

The defense fell to last in the AFC, giving up too many points (245), too many first downs (187), too many yards (league-high 3,438) and intercepting too few passes (three, another league low). Biles persuaded ex-49er defensive coordinator Chuck Studley to join the Oilers and solve the problems. Studley begins with a laundry list.

The line, once one of the AFC's best, is young and uncertain. End Jesse Baker may be the best talent. Baker had eight sacks last year and, more importantly, developed a feel for playing at the NFL level.

Biles shifted Mike Stensrud from end to nosetackle and moved Ken Kennard outside. Backups include 36-year-old Elvin Bethea; Daryle Skaugstad, a second-round pick in 1980; and Malcolm Taylor, who played on special teams as a rookie last year.

"The biggest thing we're striving for is consistency. . . . I think the quarterback situation will be the key."

"We feel that the experience gained by some of our younger players will pay off," says Biles. "Kennard and Stensrud were playing new positions. Last season will make everyone better. We certainly expect to be an improved defensive unit."

Oiler linebackers aren't bad. Robert Brazile is rarely caught out of position and has enough quickness and instincts to remain on the field when the Oilers go to their "nickel" package. At one inside spot, starter Daryl Hunt could face a challenge from Bob Abraham, a third-round pick in the '82 draft who suffered an eye injury in training camp and never really got into a groove after the strike.

As for the secondary, Biles admits the Willie Tullis-Greg Stemrick-Mike Reinfeldt-Vernon Perry unit could undergo a shuffle. Starters under the most pressure are Stemrick, the right corner, and Perry, the strong safety. "This is an area where a young player may well break into the starting lineup," says Biles, mindful that his secondary intercepted only one pass in 1982.

John James, acquired at midseason last year, and Florian Kempf apparently will handle the punting and kicking. James averaged 40.5 yards on 43 punts. Kempf made four of six field goals, including three-for-three between the 30 and 39-yard lines.

"This is going to be an interesting season for the Oilers," says Biles. "The biggest thing we're striving for is consistency with a mixture of younger players and veterans. I think the quarterback situation will be the key."

END

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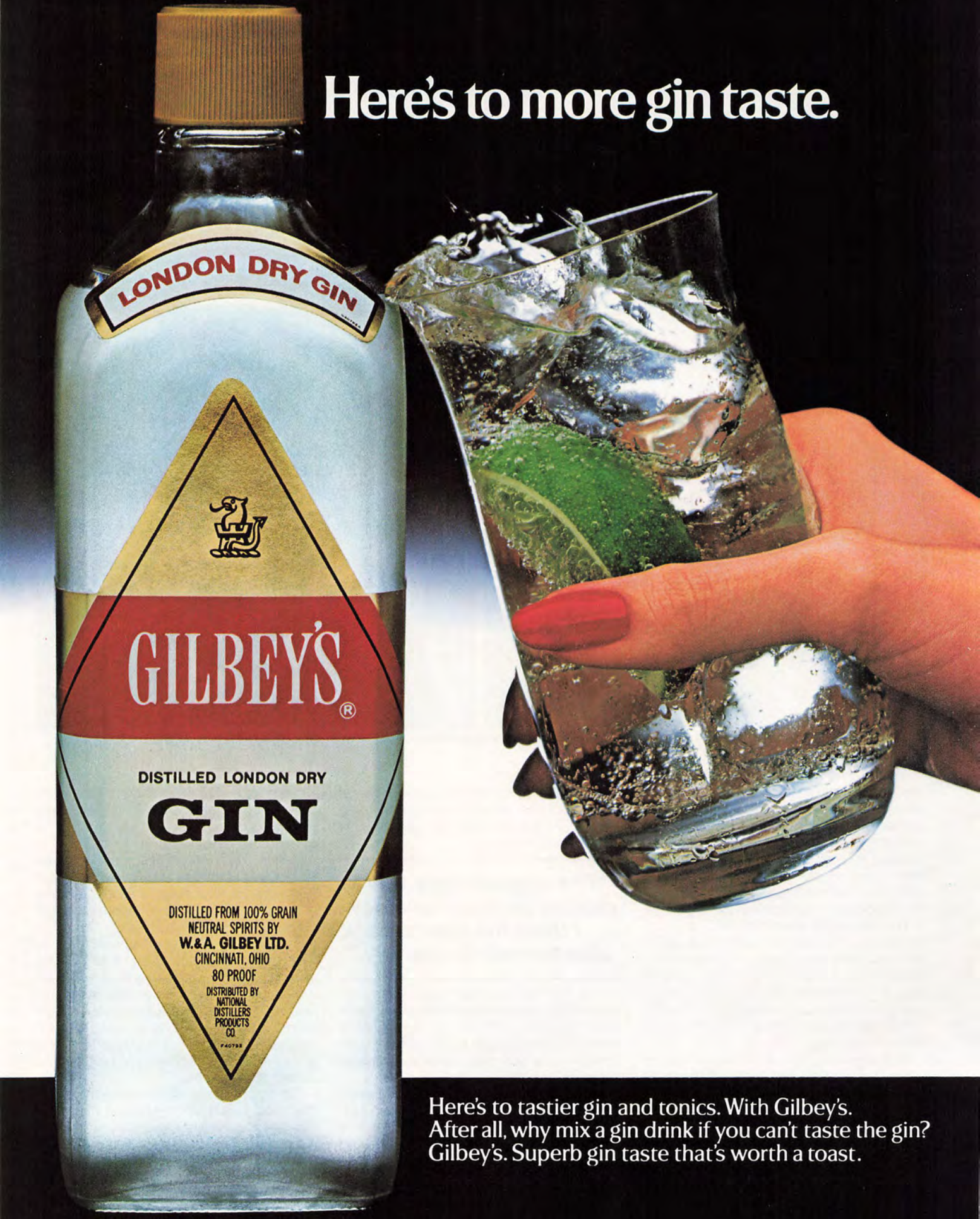

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In Super Bowl XVIII

The Chargers Will Triumph

by Jerry McCoin

The Washington Redskins will play a return engagement in Super Bowl XVIII on Jan. 22, 1984, at Tampa Stadium, but their bid for back-to-back championships will be spoiled by Don Coryell's pass-happy San Diego Chargers.

With defensive weaknesses strengthened through the draft, Air Coryell will wing it all the way to the top, and passing ace Dan Fouts finally will wear the Super Bowl ring he has wanted for so long.

The John Riggins-led Redskins will be almost as tough as they were in their National Football League title campaign a year ago. But they'll come up short when they defend their championship against a Charger team that will be improved defensively and as explosive as ever.

Athlon sees the New York Jets and the Cincinnati Bengals as the other division winners in the American Football Conference. Green Bay and San Francisco will be the other division titlists in the NFC.

AFC EAST

1. **New York Jets**
2. **Miami**
3. **New England**
4. **Buffalo**
5. **Baltimore**

Many observers feel the muddy field that slowed the potent New York offense in the AFC title game is the only thing that kept the Jets out of the Super Bowl a year ago. Under new Coach Joe Walton, the Jets appear destined for a return trip to the AFC title game.

Richard Todd again will direct the offense that features running back Freeman McNeil and wide receivers Wesley Walker and Lam Jones—all capable of the big play. McNeil led the NFL in rushing last year with 786 yards. A healthy defensive line, dubbed the New York Sack Exchange for the 66 sacks it recorded in 1981, will strengthen a rebounding Jet defense.

With the quarterback picture still uncertain, Miami will once again live or die by its Killer Bee defense, led by Bob Baumhower, Kim Bokamper and the Blackwood brothers, Glenn and Lyle. Either David Woodley, Don Strock or rookie Dan Marino will be calling signals in an offense headed by running backs Andra Franklin and Tony Nathan. Miami will be in the playoff picture.

Another team with a question mark at quarterback is the New England Patriots. Rookie Tony Eason will seriously challenge Steve Grogan for the job. A young but steadily improving defense will enable the Pats to grab third place in this tight division and a possible wild-card playoff berth.

New Coach Kay Stephenson promises to open up the Buffalo offense that spotlights running back Joe Cribbs and wide-out Jerry Butler. But Joe Ferguson will have to cut down on interceptions, and the defense will have to be less generous for the Bills to climb above the .500 mark.

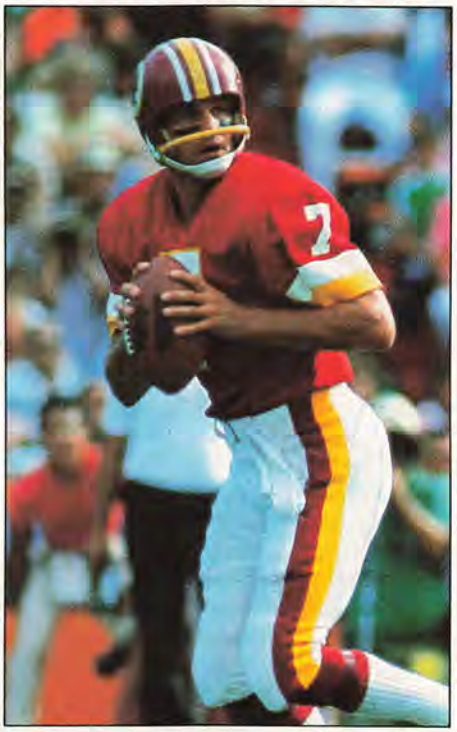
Baltimore appears to be still a few seasons away from the .500 mark but should at least get second-year Coach Frank Kush his first NFL victory. Even with one of the league's softest schedules, the Colts again will occupy the division cellar.

AFC CENTRAL

1. **Cincinnati**
2. **Pittsburgh**
3. **Cleveland**
4. **Houston**

Cincinnati will extend its reign in the AFC Central but needs to fill gaps at tailback and in the secondary to contend for the conference crown. Veteran quarterback Ken Anderson will be looking to lead the NFL in passing for the third consecutive year. His receiving corps of Chris Collinsworth, Isaac Curtis and Dan Ross is second to none. Fullback Pete Johnson can still grind out the tough inside yardage, but the Bengals need a tailback who can take it outside.

Joe Theismann: He quarterbacks the champions.



Defensively, the Bengals are solid in front, third best in NFL against the rush in '82. In the backfield, however, changes are needed. The secondary allowed 227 yards per game in the air. Only six teams gave up more. The draft should provide help. The Bengals used two of their first three picks for defensive backs.

Pittsburgh could challenge for the division title but will be scarcely a shadow of its former dynastic self. Terry Bradshaw and Franco Harris return to lead the offense. Jack Lambert and Mel Blount head Steeler defenders. If the new faces blend effectively with the old, Pittsburgh will at least make the playoffs via a wild-card selection.

The Cleveland Browns have offensive firepower with quarterback Paul McDonald, tight end Ozzie Newsome and fullback Mike Pruitt but must shore up a defense that ranked 23rd in the NFL if they are to return to the playoffs.

Unless Earl Campbell and Archie Manning can rebound from disappointing seasons a year ago and holes can be plugged in a defense that allowed nearly 400 yards per game in '82, Houston faces another frustrating campaign.

AFC WEST

1. **San Diego**
2. **Los Angeles Raiders**
3. **Denver**
4. **Kansas City**
5. **Seattle**

San Diego picked up All-America linebacker Billy Ray Smith and three defensive backs in the draft to strengthen a pass defense that was the worst in the NFL last year. With that problem under control, the Chargers are headed for a date on Super Sunday.

Fouts is back to pilot Air Coryell and will have his choice of a set of receivers including Kellen Winslow, Wes Chandler and Charlie Joiner. Running back Chuck Muncie will keep opposing defenses honest.

The Los Angeles Raiders definitely figure in the playoff picture. Quarterback Jim Plunkett and running back Marcus Allen head an

(continued on page 164)

BALTIMORE

If the choice had been Mike Pagel's, he knew exactly what the Baltimore Colts should have done with their No. 1 draft pick—the first man in the whole draft.

"My feeling is that we need four or five quality players if we're gonna make the playoffs," says Pagel, a fourth-round selection a year ago who went on to win the starting quarterback job for the worst team in the NFL.

"I would have used the pick to get maybe two veteran players and a couple of high draft choices, maybe even a No. 1 later in the round," he says. "It would make us that much better, that much quicker."

Instead, the Colts drafted Stanford All-America quarterback John Elway, even though he had said he wouldn't play for Baltimore. He threatened to play professional baseball rather than join the club. A week after the draft, the Colts traded Elway to the Denver Broncos. In return, the Colts got offensive lineman Chris Hinton of Northwestern (Denver's first pick, fourth overall in the draft), quarterback Mark Herrmann and the Broncos' 1984 first-round draft pick.

"By going to Baltimore, I could move right in and start," Herrmann said after the trade.

"Nobody's ever given me anything," says Pagel. "I've proved to myself and to others that I can start in this league, and I'm not about to give up on that idea."

But Pagel has another idea.

Pagel says he wasn't going to give up his starting job even if Elway had joined the Colts.

"Nobody's ever given me anything," says Pagel. "I've proved to myself and to others that I can start in this league, and I'm not about to give up on that idea."

A year ago, Pagel came into the Baltimore camp unheralded. But he put Art Schlichter, who was the Colts' first-round draft pick, on the bench. Schlichter, 1981 Ohio State All-American, had difficulty adjusting his game to the pro offense. He threw only 37 passes. He completed 17, none for touchdowns.

In late May, Schlichter was suspended indefinitely by NFL Commissioner Pete Rozelle for "... gambling on league games and association with illegal gambling activities." Rozelle said Schlichter told him he never bet on or against the Colts and that he never attempted to influence the outcome of a game.

Under first-year Coach Frank Kush, who coached Pagel for two years at Arizona State, the Colts did not win a game in 1982. They were the youngest team in the NFL with five new starters on offense and seven on defense. Their average age was 24.9 years. There were 31 new faces on the 49-man roster. Twenty-one of those players were either rookies or first-year men who had been in pro training camps but had never played in an NFL game.

The Colts started off wonderfully, however, winning three of their first five preseason games.

There was great optimism over this new young team, even if the Colts did lose their first two regular-season games. After all, they had been competitive in both, taking a 17-14 halftime lead over the Dolphins before succumbing 24-20.

Then came the strike and Baltimore never recovered.

"We were starting to come together, our conditioning was good and we were playing pretty well," Kush says. "But when we came back, we just about had to start all over. We were back in training camp again. By the time we got things back together, it was too late. The strike hurt us badly. There's no question about that."

The low point came in the finale with a 34-7 drubbing by Miami. Afterward, Kush said flat out that several players had quit on him. He vowed they would not be back.

Pagel disagrees.

"You have to understand the way Coach Kush is," says Pagel. "Maybe in his mind some guys did quit, but I don't think that was the case. I just think it was a very good team finally getting its game in gear and beating a team that was outmanned.

(continued)

Mike Pagel has no intention of letting any quarterback the Colts might acquire get his job.

At times the Colt defense with Johnie Cooks (right) and others was overpowering but not often enough to prevent an 0-8-1 record.

(Baltimore continued)

That was our biggest problem last year. We just didn't have the experience but that's going to change.

"In two or three years, when we mature and get a few more people, we're going to be one of the best teams in the NFL."

Pagel escaped his rookie season relatively unscathed, even if he was forced to run for survival almost every time he dropped back to pass. Despite the problems, his numbers weren't bad. He completed 50 percent of his passes, threw for five touchdowns and had only seven interceptions.

Still, he says, the winless season—the Colts did manage a tie against Green Bay—"left a sour taste in our mouths. We have players who played for great college teams. We have players with pride, and we were not used to getting beat every week.

"But I really believe that will make us better this year. We're learning how to play the game. It takes time to rebuild a program. If the fans can be patient, we'll be OK."

But what about Kush? Can he be patient?

"Coach Kush knows what's going on here," Pagel says. "I've known him for a long time. I know what his reputation is, but he also knows we're building. Sure, he's a screamer but he's also a perfectionist and he's going to make all of us better because of it.

"He's changed a little since he was at Arizona State. He still demands perfection and he demands hard work. But he really doesn't yell as much as he used to. He still gets angry, but I have yet to meet a football coach who doesn't. He's just a very tough guy but he's also very fair.

"It doesn't matter what your reputation is, if you come in and do the job, you can play for him. That's all he wants—performance. That's what happened between Art and myself. Coach Kush went to training camp with no preconceived notions. One of us had to win the job and it was based on who did best. Just because he was a first-round draft choice didn't matter."

The same could be said for the rest of the Baltimore roster, patched together with many low-round draft choices and free agents.

Matt Bouza, the team's leading receiver, was a free agent who made the team in training camp. He caught at least one pass in every game and led the Colts in receptions and yardage.

John Sinnott, the starting left tackle, was a free agent, as was Nat Hudson, the left guard. Both should be starters on an offensive line that must improve if the Colts are to have any chance. Pagel was sacked 16 times and Schlichter three times.

Baltimore has outstanding personnel at the skill positions. In running back Curtis Dickey, the Colts have perhaps the fastest tailback in the NFL, a player clocked in 4.2 for the 40, but a man who did not have a chance to run much

Baltimore, depending heavily on young players, has two with bright futures in defensive lineman Leo Wisniewski (left) and running back Curtis Dickey.

a year ago because the Colts were usually behind and having to pass.

Dickey gained only 232 yards. He was tied for second in receptions with 21. The Colts expect to make use of his talents more frequently.

Fullback Randy McMillan, a third-year man from Pittsburgh, led the team in rushing with 305 yards, but he averaged only three yards per carry, running behind an inexperienced line. He is considered one of Baltimore's blue-chip players.

The deep threat is wide receiver Ray Butler, who caught only 17 passes but averaged 16 yards per reception. Tight end Tim Sherwin, a fourth-round pick in 1981, beat out Reese McCall for a starting job and caught 21 passes.

Despite finishing 26th in total defense and 28th against rushing, the defense was improved over 1981. Scoring by opponents dropped from 33 to 26 points a game, total yardage dropped 58 yards a game, third-down efficiency fell from 51 to 43 percent, and Colt sacks went from 13 in a 16-game 1981 schedule to 11 in nine games.

The Colts switched to a 3-4 defense for the first time to take advantage of a decent linebacking corps built around last year's No. 1 choice, Johnie Cooks.

The Colts were happy with the progress of 1981 first-round pick Donnell Thompson, a hard-charging defensive end who gives the team an excellent pass rush. He should have more help this season from Leo Wisniewski, who suffered a knee injury in training camp but came on strong toward the end.

The Colts switched to a 3-4 defense for the first time to take advantage of a decent linebacking corps built around last year's No. 1 choice, Johnie Cooks. Fifth-year man Barry Krauss found a home as an inside linebacker. Greg Bracelin, a free agent who started the team's last five games, finished as one of the leading tacklers.

The secondary is inexperienced. The Colts are contemplating switching Nesby Glasgow from free safety to strong safety.

Kicker Dan Miller, signed during the season, responded with a 58-yard field goal against the Vikings, a club record. Punter Rohn Stark, a rookie from Florida State, averaged 44.4 yards a kick, second in the NFL.

The schedule should be a little easier than 1982, when seven of the Colts' eight opponents advanced to the playoffs.

"We're going to win some football games this year," says Pagel. "This is a team with a real future."

END

Canadian League

Eskimo Rule Absolute

by Dave Fuller

Canadians, mostly as a consequence of geography, occasionally will acknowledge their built-in sense of inferiority when discussing the sporting life and, in particular, the Canadian Football League.

As a result, we tend to make the most out of such trivial matters as the fact that Joe Theismann, who quarterbacked Washington to victory in Super Bowl XVII, toiled two seasons in Toronto with the Argonauts before skipping off to Redskin Park.

Condredge Holloway hit his peak last season and was named the Canadian League's top player.

This identity crisis might also explain why Condredge Holloway, a 5-10 runt of a quarterback from Huntsville, Ala., continues to field the same, tiring question from folks in Canada: "Why did you decide on a football career in the Great White North when major league baseball clubs across America might one day have offered you a piece of Fort Knox?"

The lightning-quick quarterback with the deadly accurate arm fires back a by now patented response, but we're still not entirely convinced. Despite his nine-year presence in the Canadian League and the enormous profile he generated while leading the Argonauts to their first Grey Cup appearance since 1971, a sense of mystery still shadows Holloway who was judged the outstanding player in Canada last season.

Indeed, 12 summers ago, Holloway was among the top infield prospects in the land, at age 17 vying with another teenage phenom, Robin Yount, for All-America high school honors at shortstop.

In 1971, the fledgling Montreal Expos grabbed Holloway in the first round of the major league draft and offered him $85,000 to sign. But his mother, Dorothy, would have no part of it, steering her son instead to the University of Tennessee and a degree in business administration.

"I sometimes wonder if I did the right thing," admits the man who set several Tennessee records. "But if I were in my mother's shoes, I'd have told my son the same thing. After all, I did get my college education."

This identity crisis might also explain why Condredge Holloway, a 5-10 runt of a quarterback from Huntsville, Ala., continues to field the same, tiring question from folks in Canada.

After four years of college, Holloway was considered too old for baseball in 1975 and too short for the National Football League. The New England Patriots did offer him work in their secondary, but eventually the Ottawa Rough Riders made a much better pitch.

For the next four years, he split Ottawa quarterback duty with Notre Dame graduate Tom Clements. In 1976, the Riders won a Grey Cup. But Holloway, a pro sophomore, spent a painful 60 minutes of action watching from the sidelines.

It was another three seasons before Holloway finally earned first-string status. By then he had grown weary of the Ottawa organization, a club with one of the lowest salary budgets in the CFL.

In the spring of 1981, the Riders dealt their unhappy signal caller to Toronto. Heralded as something of a savior, Holloway fell flat on his face like so many Argonauts before him. The club finished dead last with a 2-14 record.

By the time the '82 season rolled around, the Argos had brought in a new general manager (Ralph Sazio), head coach (Bob O'Billovich), offensive coordinator (Darrel "Mouse" Davis) and quarterback (Joe Barnes, a CFL veteran).

Holloway's days were numbered, or so most everyone thought.

But when training camp broke, the feisty Alabaman had managed to hang on to the starting assignment. He went on to break most club passing marks, completing 299 of 507 tosses for 4,661 yards and 31 touchdowns. Moreover, he finished second in team rushing, netting 448 yards on 62 carries. His favorite target, Terry Greer (Alabama State), had 85 receptions, 1,466 yards and 11 touchdowns.

Aided by the club's third CFL all-star, free safety Zac Henderson (Oklahoma), the Argos

(continued on page 107)

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CHICAGO

It was, Jim McMahon believes, Nov. 21, 1982, that Jim McMahon became a professional football player.

It was, he concludes, that day in Chicago, the Bears against Detroit, that he took the first giant step leading to the sequence of good deeds that won for this intense young man from Brigham Young the honor of NFL Rookie of the Year.

"It was the first game after the strike," says McMahon. "Frankly, I wasn't in good shape. I never have liked practice, anyway. When the strike started after two games, well, I didn't mind at first. I thought of it as a little break after the preseason and the regular season. But then it got monotonous. I got bored and quit practicing after two weeks. I didn't think we would be back that season. I got in bad shape.

"I cussed myself out. I am a terrible loser. I couldn't believe I was playing that badly. I felt, you see, I could help this team and I wasn't. Then suddenly, I was."

"But when we started again, Coach (Mike) Ditka had me running with the first team. We were playing before the home crowd against the Lions and I was doing badly. I had thrown an interception on our 15 and they scored. Then, on the next play that we had the ball, I threw another interception they ran back for a touchdown. We were down a quick 14 points.

"I came off the field thinking I would be yanked. The coaches weren't looking at me and I sure as heck didn't want to look at them. They stuck with me and we won. I threw two touchdown passes, one on the second-to-last play with 40 seconds left. That tied the game. We won on John Roveto's field goal 20-17.

"Well," McMahon continues, "that was the game, in my judgment, that established me in the NFL. It was the day I became a pro. I did in my mind and I think in the minds of the Bears. I didn't let the early problems bother me, get to me. They made me mad. I cussed myself out. I am a terrible loser. I couldn't believe I was playing that badly. I felt, you see, I could help this team and I wasn't. Then suddenly, I was."

For the remainder of the season, McMahon helped that team and himself. Though the Bears, finishing 3-6, were the only NFC Central Division team that did not make it to the playoffs in the abbreviated 1982 season, they made strides, in no position greater strides than at quarterback.

McMahon ended his rookie season with an 80.1 percent pass-efficiency rating, fourth-best in the NFC and ahead of such veterans as Tommy Kramer of Minnesota, Lynn Dickey of Green Bay, Steve Bartkowski of Atlanta and Ron Jaworski of Philadelphia. McMahon's rating was the ninth-best in the NFL. Besides the Rookie of the Year award, he was also selected for the Brian Piccolo Award for off-the-field activities reminiscent of the late Bear running back.

"I have areas that need improving, of course," says McMahon. "What I need most is more playing time and help around me. But it's true there were many injuries, so much patchwork necessary that, well, you don't learn much about coverages when you are running for your life."

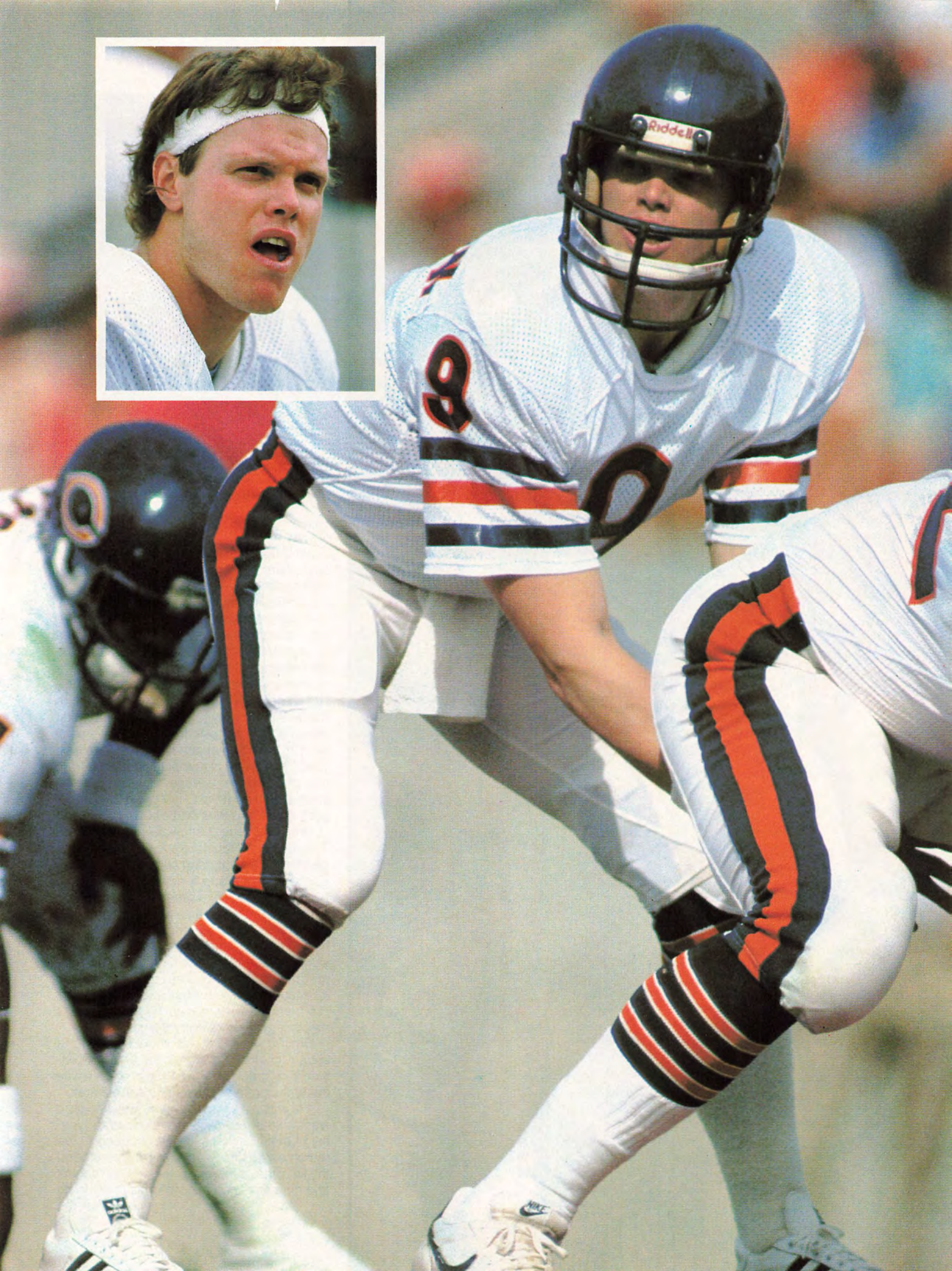
"To play the position the way he did with the pressure he had, he did a great job," says Ditka, who chose to gamble with McMahon. "Jim is going to win his share of awards before it's over for him. He's set goals for himself and he's going to achieve many of them. I don't know if that will surprise people because everybody knows he has talent. But I'm not sure they knew he had that much perseverance, that he was that tough. The way he hung in all season, that's what I am happiest about."

General Manager Jim Finks of the Bears said the Rookie of the Year award "bodes well for his future and for the Bears' future."

McMahon feels the same way, although he has said publicly he will seek to achieve for the fans, the Bears, the coaches and for himself, but not for Finks or Owner George Halas. McMahon said that after a long contract dispute that saw him signing at the last minute. He was not happy with the contract but he is happy to be a Chicago Bear, happier still to be the starter the first year.

(continued)

Jim McMahon, NFL Rookie of the Year in 1982, is the key man in the Bears' future.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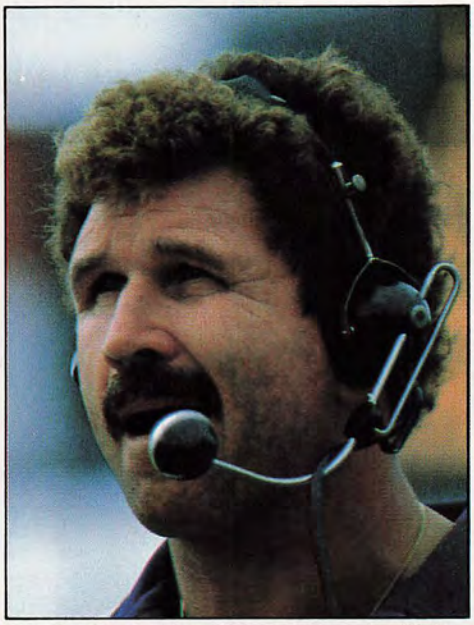

Bears' Coach Mike Ditka anticipates that Walter Payton will have his seventh 1000-yard season.

(Chicago continued)

Jim's family moved from California to Roy, Utah, near Ogden, when he was a junior in high school. His older brother was allowed to stay in California and finish high school.

"I wanted to stay, too, but my parents said no," McMahon says. "My dad was transferred to Utah. My mom liked it. She was a Mormon. My dad was a Roman Catholic and the kids (a brother and three sisters) are, too. My ambition—and his for me—was to go to Notre Dame. At Roy, they ran the wishbone my first year. I wasn't accustomed to it but we went 10-1. In the I-formation, we were 8-2 the next year. The caliber of competition was far from that of California. College recruiters weren't seen everywhere like they were in California. I got a letter from Notre Dame but nothing else."

Only a few schools showed genuine interest. They included Nebraska and Oklahoma State (teams not exactly committed to the pass), Brigham Young and a couple of other Utah colleges. McMahon's dream of quarterbacking for Notre Dame remained just that.

McMahon had a splendid career at BYU, but he was not a Mormon while a large majority of students were. Moreover, McMahon likes beer and chewing tobacco. The use of alcohol and tobacco are frowned on by the Mormon religion. His friends say, however, he attends Mass regularly and works with religious groups.

Despite injuries to his shoulder, eye and knee, McMahon set all manner of NCAA Division 1 records in 1980-81 (56 in all). He was easily the premier passer of the 1982 draft.

"He was the kind of guy who knew what he wanted and the players responded to him," said LaVell Edwards, his BYU coach. "I will remember him for two things: his presence on the field, that is, his ability to remain in control and not panic; and secondly, his ability to do

(continued on page 105)

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He was still an undergraduate at Georgia then, gaining attention as one of the most aggressive tackles in the Southeastern Conference. Francis Marion Campbell was clearly something special, and the sports information director sought new ways to spread the word. Linemen, however, are decidedly more difficult to promote than a quarterback with astronomical passing statistics or a running back with 4.4 speed and ballet moves.

Undaunted, the man in charge of publicizing the heroics of the Bulldogs noticed Campbell's full name on a preseason questionnaire, dug back into the history books and called his prize lineman into his office. In short order, he decided that Campbell might have been named for a legendary Revolutionary War guerrilla-style fighter named Francis Marion.

Failure in his first head job was a great disappointment for Campbell—and a godsend for the struggling Philadelphia Eagles, who were vainly trying to rebuild.

Marion, the history books said, had fought most of his battles in the swamplands of South Carolina near where the young Georgia tackle grew up. And those historians with a flair for the dramatic had referred to Marion as the Swamp Fox.

"Marion," the publicity man asked, "are you named after Francis Marion, the Swamp Fox?"

"I don't think so," the quiet youngster answered.

"No big deal," replied the PR man, already setting his campaign in motion. "In this afternoon's paper, you will be."

Thus was born the nickname Swamp Fox, one which Marion Campbell, newest head coach of the Philadelphia Eagles, has lived with ever since. He carried it with him through two years of service in the Army, a couple of seasons with the San Francisco 49ers and six years with the Philadelphia Eagles. He helped the Eagles win the NFL championship in 1960. He earned All-Pro honors and a couple of invitations to the Pro Bowl and established himself as an athlete of strong leadership qualities.

The nickname also followed Campbell into the coaching ranks, first as a member of the American Football League Boston Patriots' staff, then as defensive coach of the Minnesota Vikings, Los Angeles Rams and Atlanta Falcons. It was still with him when he was named head coach of the Falcons in 1974. And when he was fired two years later.

Failure in his first head job was a great disappointment for Campbell—and a godsend for the struggling Philadelphia Eagles, who were vainly trying to rebuild. When offered the position of defensive coordinator, the Swamp Fox returned to the comfortable role of assistant coach. Soured by his experiences in Atlanta, he confided to close associates that it would be a cold day in the South Carolina swamps before he chased the head coaching brass ring again.

Instead, he turned his full attention to building a new-look Eagle defense, convinced that the shortest route to a contending position in the NFC East, dominated by the Dallas Cowboys, was to reduce the scoring effectiveness of the opposition.

Dick Vermeil, then coach at Philadelphia, gave Campbell his blessings and commissioned him to get the job done. Between 1977 and 1981 the Eagles allowed the fewest points in the league and annually ranked high in virtually every defensive statistical category. When Philadelphia finally dethroned Dallas and arrived at the Super Bowl in January of '81, no less an authority than Coach Tom Landry gave much of the credit to Campbell's defense. "The successful teams, those with championship possibilities," Landry said, "are the ones with excellent defenses. And in my opinion, Philadelphia is the best defensive team in the NFL."

High praise, indeed, for a man who had comfortably settled back into a secondary role in NFL coaching circles.

But then came the trying season of '82 with its player strike. The Eagles, like most teams, were thrown off course. Little went right as they limped to the year's end with

(continued)

Wilbert Montgomery is the Eagles' leading power runner with a 4.5-yards-per-carry average last season.

Ron Jaworski figures the fans will cheer him again when the Eagles start winning.

(Philadelphia continued)

a 3-6 record. Even before the ashes of disappointment blew away, Vermeil informed Philadelphia Owner Leonard Tose that he was leaving the coaching ranks, tired and emotionally "burned out."

The roller-coaster Eagles were not only in a position of having to rekindle the flame that had burned so brightly as the Eighties began but also would have to seek a new head coach to do it. Tose looked no farther than down the hall to the office Campbell had occupied for the past six years.

Campbell accepted more quickly than he would have thought possible. "There was a time," he admits, "when I was certain I'd never again be interested in the job of head coach. I had made up my mind that I wouldn't even consider it unless I was certain I would be allowed to run the team—and there aren't too many situations like that around any longer."

During Campbell's tenure as an Eagle assistant, other teams contacted him about becoming head coach. But they were willing to go no further than a short-term offer. The stability Campbell felt he would need was never offered. Not until Tose walked into his office with the offer of a five-year contract. Campbell enthusiastically accepted the challenge of restoring the Eagles to a championship-caliber team.

It is not a responsibility Campbell is taking lightly. Nor does he suggest the turnaround will come easily. "In '81 we came back from the Super Bowl year with six straight wins, then lost to the Minnesota Vikings," he says. "Things haven't been the same since. Since that time, our record is 7-13 and that's a long way from healthy. There have to be reasons for a slide like that. My job is to dig them out and correct them as quickly as possible."

Campbell now will oversee the entire program, but he will continue to focus most of his on-field attention on the Eagles' defense. The offense, a hit-and-miss proposition for the past couple of seasons, will be handled by newly hired Dick Wood, former Atlanta quarterback coach.

Among those confident that the Eagles, out of the playoffs for the first time in five seasons last year, will make a quick recovery is quarterback Ron Jaworski. "This is a very good football team," he says. "All we need is a couple of early wins under our belts to get back to where we ought to be."

There are those Jaworski critics, however, who are quick to label his observations as wishful thinking. No player, in fact, took more heat for the Eagles' decline than he did a year ago. Despite breaking Norm Snead's club career records for pass attempts, completions, yardage and touchdowns, Jaworski was the constant target of booing fans. "When we start winning again," he says, "I'll be back in favor with them just like I was a couple of years ago.

"While Dick Vermeil was great to me, helped me to become a more disciplined quarterback, I'm anxious to see how things work out with Dick Wood coordinating the offense. He's a quiet, low-key kind of guy. I've been used to having Vermeil talking a hundred miles an hour in one ear and (former offensive coordinator) Sid Gillman talking in the other. It should be an interesting switch."

For the offense to enjoy success, Jaworski will have to return to the form he displayed in championship days. Last year he had interception problems again, giving up a dozen. He threw for 12 touchdowns and 2,076 yards.

The targets at his disposal are impressive except that there is no real deep threat to concern defenses. Wide receiver Harold Carmichael, entering his 13th season, led receivers again with 35 catches for 540 yards. Ron Smith had 34 for 475. Tight end John Spagnola caught 26 for 313 yards.

The workhorse of the Eagles' offense, however, is running back Wilbert Montgomery, a six-year veteran who, when healthy, is as good a power runner as the league can claim. Last season was another overtime campaign for the 5-10, 195-pounder. He handled the bulk of the running game with 114 carries for 515 yards (including a team record-setting 90-yard touchdown run against Houston) and caught 20 passes for an additional 258 yards. Fullback Perry Harrington, a three-year man, rushed 56 times for 231 yards.

The line could be solid again if center Guy Morriss returns fully recovered from off-season surgery for the removal of cartilage chips. The line, with the exception of 11-year veteran Stan Walters, is young and should be approaching its prime. And Walters, who led the team in

(continued on page 111)

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(Recipes continued)

sharp cheddar cheese, then beats four eggs until foamy and pours this over the cheese. He lets it bake in a 275-degree oven for 45 minutes, and he allows it to sit for a couple of minutes to firm up before he slices it and partakes of his first bite, which would defrost a field judge's eyeglasses.

Wide receiver Fred Nixon arrived in Green Bay with his own quiche recipe. First he basted a prepared pie crust with brown mustard and then browned it in the oven five minutes. He lined the bottom of the pie shell with a pound of crab meat and an ounce of grated cheddar cheese. Then he mixed two-thirds of a cup of whipping cream with two egg whites until frothy and poured this mixture into the pie shell. After sprinkling it with paprika, he baked it for 40 minutes in a 375-degree oven.

As a general rule, placekickers eat weird things, which should come as no surprise to observers of the pro football scene.

Garo Yepremian, the old Dolphin, favors chick-pea dip, which is not surprising for somebody five feet tall who tried to throw a pass in the Super Bowl. Steve Mike-Mayer fills his personal trough with something called lecso. He chops six onions and four green peppers and fries all that in four tablespoons of oil. He tosses in a two-pound can of tomatoes after he has chopped them up, then he throws in two tablespoons of salt, some hot pepper seeds and simmers it for 30 minutes before slopping it over rice. See what I mean about kickers?

Jan Stenerud likes to boil eight or 10 peeled potatoes. He drains and chops them a bit and combines with a mixture of a half cup sour cream, eight ounces of cream cheese, six chopped green onions and a half stick of melted butter. He adds salt and pepper to taste and cooks in a casserole shoved into a 350-degree oven for 30 minutes.

If Brillat-Savarin is right, and you are what you eat, then Randy Gradishar is a cupcake, Jack Youngblood is a stuffed duck, Zeke Bratkowski is a prune cake, and Charley Hall is a fruit cake.

Kenny "Snake" Stabler doesn't eat snake, he eats burgundy beef stew.

And Commissioner Pete Rozelle is a potato pancake.

As for NFL officials, obviously, they are full of beans, not to mention sauerkraut.

Nick Skorich, long-time supervisor of officials, also has a little ham in him. Or at least his favorite recipe does. He cooks four cups of diced ham and eight cups of sauerkraut over low heat for 45 minutes. Then he blends in two cups of white sauce, and when it's well blended, he dumps in two cups of cooked, red beans.

With fuel like that, the referee for the next Super Bowl game could blow the ball dead with the noon whistle from the Green Bay Packing Company.

END

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CINCINNATI

At the end of the 1982 season, several Cincinnati Bengals were among the NFL statistical leaders.

Ken Anderson led the quarterback ratings with a nifty figure of 95.5. Split end Chris Collinsworth and tight end Dan Ross finished fourth and seventh among receivers with 49 and 47 catches respectively. Burly Pete Johnson rushed for 622 yards, eighth-best in the league, and scored seven touchdowns.

But for the Bengals, the sum of the parts didn't add up to a return to the Super Bowl. They were thrashed in their opening playoff game 44-17 by the erratic New York Jets, as Freeman McNeil slashed and sprinted for 202 yards and Richard Todd passed for 269 yards and one touchdown at Cincinnati's own Riverfront Stadium.

No player on Cincinnati's defensive unit has been more impressive than Williams, a quick, instinctive linebacker who was discovered by Bengal scouts at Dartmouth.

The loss to the Jets only confirmed the dark suspicion that the Bengals, who ranked eighth among all AFC defenses in a 7-2 regular season, allowing 177 points and 321.4 yards per game, might even have been worse during the strike-shortened season than the statistics indicate.

This was virtually the same unit that reached Super Bowl XVI in 1981 despite floundering in 22nd place among NFL defenses. On the basis of age and experience, the defense should have been at its best. To be sure, there was some age among the starters. Linebacker Jim LeClair was 32 last season. The patriarch of the secondary, right corner Ken Riley, was 35. Elsewhere, the Bengals were in their prime.

The line consisted of left end Eddie Edwards and nosetackle Wilson Whitley, both in their sixth years last season, and right end Ross Browner, a fifth-year veteran. Alongside LeClair were linebackers Bo Harris (eighth year), Glenn Cameron (eighth) and Reggie Williams (seventh). Cornerbacks Louis Breeden (fifth) and Ray Griffin (fifth), who was also the club's "nickel" back, plus free safety Mike Fuller (eighth) were at the peak of their careers. The only kid on the unit was Bobby Kemp, second-year strong safety.

Of those dozen players, eight were picked by the Bengals in the first three rounds of previous drafts. The three-man front of Edwards, Whitley and Browner was composed of first-rounders. So was Cameron. LeClair, Harris and Williams were third-rounders. Ray Griffin was a second-rounder. Riley (sixth), Breeden (seventh) and Kemp (eighth) were taken in middle rounds. The only free agent on the unit was Fuller, an ex-Charger who was originally a third-round choice.

No player on Cincinnati's defensive unit has been more impressive than Williams, a quick, instinctive linebacker discovered by Bengal scouts at Dartmouth.

"The players loved the sport for what it was," says Williams, referring to his Ivy League career. "They threw themselves into the game. So many didn't even have the physical attributes but they had heart. The captain during my sophomore year was a 5-10, 165-pound defensive end. You'd never think he was a football player but he made All-Ivy League three straight years.

"I wasn't highly recruited by the Big Ten," says Williams, "but (Michigan Coach) Bo Schembechler talked to me. I could've gotten an academic scholarship to Michigan, and I think he wanted me to take that and go out for football."

Instead, Williams said thanks but no thanks, and went to Dartmouth.

"I received some inquiries from pro teams during my junior year," Williams recalls. "I was so naive at the time. One letter and I thought a team was interested in me. I didn't have anyone to counsel me.

"In my senior year, I was drafted by Toronto and they threw dollar signs at me. I had no desire to play in Canada but I was impressed by the figures. I graduated after the football season ended (in three and a half years on an accelerated academic program) and took a job as an assistant wrestling coach at a school near White Plains, N.Y. I lived in a dreary YMCA. I was tempted to take that Canadian offer

(continued on page 108)

It will be three years hand running for Ken Anderson to lead the NFL in passing if he does it this season.

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(Chicago continued)

the unexpected, the impromptu. If you needed five straight pass completions with the game on the line, he would get them."

In the 1980 Holiday Bowl game against Southern Methodist, BYU was down 20 points late in the game and about to punt. McMahon prevailed on the coaches to pass for the needed 13 yards to keep possession. He completed the pass and BYU went on to win 46-45.

At draft time, it appeared that McMahon was bound for Baltimore, which had the first pick. Typically, he made it known he did not want to go to Baltimore. To see that it didn't happen, he hired Jerry Argovitz as an agent.

"I knew Baltimore had had trouble with Jerry before and didn't like to deal with him," says McMahon. "They passed on me."

"I never have been a good practice player. I don't like it and I never will."

McMahon was picked by the Bears, the fifth player chosen in the draft, and a salary impasse developed.

"I really didn't get off on the right foot in Chicago," says McMahon. "I got married right after the draft to Nancy Daines. We went on a honeymoon and, of course, football was the last thing on my mind. A contract dispute came about. I didn't know if I would be in camp when it started. And to tell the truth, I wasn't in shape.

"Negotiations were tough. Jerry handled everything. We went back and forth. I ended up signing just to get it off my mind right before the so-called deadline imposed by the union. I was then a Bear but not in shape to play. I never have been a good practice player. I don't like it and I never will. I just try to get through it and learn what I am supposed to learn. I don't think I was impressive in camp. Here was this guy with the big college career, out of shape and not looking good.

"Well, came the first preseason game at San Diego. I didn't start. Didn't deserve to start. We were down 28-7. I played the whole fourth quarter and we ended up losing 28-27.

"But in the next three games, I didn't play well and Bob Avellini was the No. 1 quarterback when the season began. I played the second half of the second game, against New Orleans, and did some things right, I guess. We didn't win but they stuck with me. After the strike, I started against Detroit and in that one I finally became a pro."

Gil Brandt, Dallas Cowboys' vice president and talent expert, says McMahon could be another Fran Tarkenton or a Bob Griese. He is built like they are. He also has the supreme confidence they had.

In large part, how the Bears of 1983 perform will depend on the further maturation of Jim McMahon and of the offensive line in front of him.

The incomparable Walter Payton returns, of course, after having passed the 10,000 mark (10,204) in yards gained. Offensive line improvement also would be dear to Payton.

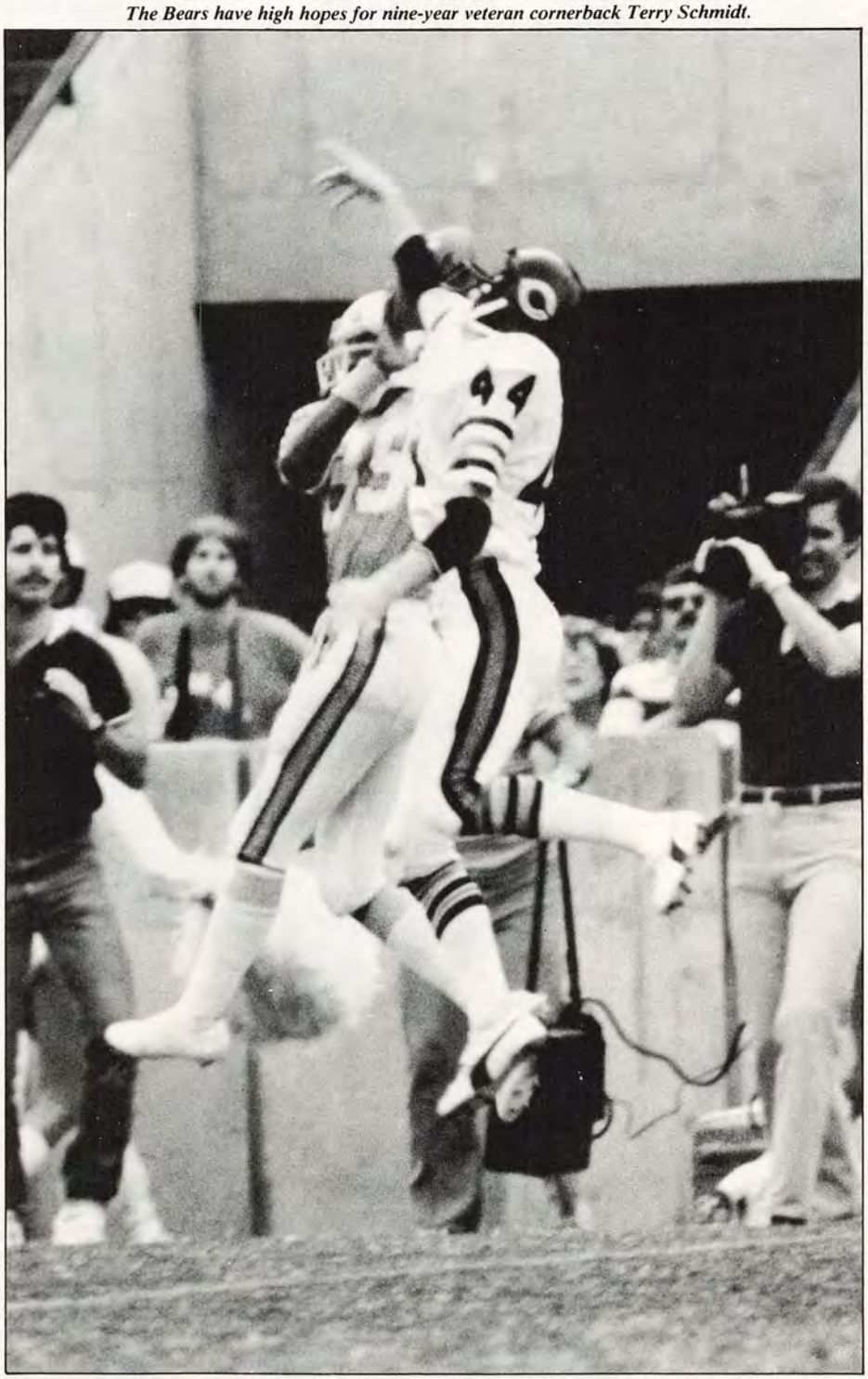
The Bears appear to need help at cornerback. They coveted a wide receiver and drafted world-class sprinter Willie Gault of Tennessee in the first round.

"Our future looks good," says McMahon. "I'm glad I'm a Bear. We're in a fun division, an evenly matched division. I look forward to the 1983 games."

But not the practices.

END

The Bears have high hopes for nine-year veteran cornerback Terry Schmidt.



Linebacker Don Blackmon (above) is one of "The Rattlesnakes." Wide receiver Stanley Morgan strikes fast, too, whether holding the ball like an egg on a reverse or making sure-handed catches downfield.

(New England continued)

with Meyer and said they wanted to be traded.

The Patriots would prefer to keep Morgan. After all, he's the all-time career-average receiving leader in the NFL with a 22.5-yard average. And last year, he led New England with 28 catches for 584 yards.

"I think maybe we've been a little rough on him (Meyer)," says Hasselback, who had 15 catches. "He was a rookie coach, and a lot of veteran players don't want to learn new tricks. This has been a learning experience for everyone.

"There has to be some give and take on both sides. I hope the players are smart enough to give him room to move. I'm sure there are going to be some changes. But I think we all have to step back from the fire and see what he has on his mind."

One problem the Patriots will not have is their offensive line, perhaps the biggest in the league. It averages 280 pounds a man.

It not only led the way for the running attack but also allowed only 15 sacks, none in four games. Guard John Hannah, as usual, got most of the notice, but offensive tackle Shelby Jordan and center Pete Brock had fine seasons, as did tackle Brian Holloway and guard Ron Wooten, rookie draft choices.

Special teams were much improved last year, thanks mainly to return man Ricky Smith, a sixth-round draft choice who helped the Patriots lead the league in kickoff returns with a 23-yard average. Smith had the longest return of the season, 98 yards against the Jets.

Punter Rich Camarillo had a fine season. A free agent cut in training camp, then re-signed after seven games in 1981, Camarillo averaged 43.7 yards, including one punt of 76 yards against the Jets.

Nine-year veteran placekicker John Smith suffered a right knee injury a week before training camp started but made it back for the last four games. In that span, Smith connected on five of eight field goal attempts, kicking the game-winner in the controversial snow plow game against the Miami Dolphins. Smith is the No. 2 all-time career field goal accuracy kicker, with a 67 percent mark.

By finishing 5-4, the Patriots were third in the AFC East. They face a rugged schedule. In addition to division rivals, they will play the Chargers, 49ers, Falcons, Steelers, Rams, Browns and Seahawks.

"Realistically, I think we're four or five players away from being a Super Bowl team," says Nelson. "I have a real good feeling, though. We made progress a year ago, and who knows, we just might be this year's surprise team.

"I've only got two or three more years left. I'd like to think I'll play in a Super Bowl before it's over. The Redskins were supposed to be a couple of years away and look what happened last year. Maybe it's our turn now."

END

(CFL continued)
clinched the East Division championship with a 9-6-1 record and qualified for the Grey Cup. O'Billovich earned Coach of the Year honors.

The Argos, however, failed in their national championship bid against the Edmonton Eskimos, perhaps the greatest team ever fielded in Canada.

The most obvious question this year is whether the resurgent Argos can dethrone the legendary Eskimos.

Edmonton swept the Argos 32-16, clinching an unprecedented fifth consecutive Grey Cup. Quarterback Warren Moon (Washington) and receiver Brian Kelly (Washington State) led the assault. Moon passed for 319 yards and Kelly scored two touchdowns off six receptions and 111 yards.

The most obvious question this year is whether the resurgent Argos can dethrone the legendary Eskimos.

For the first time in six seasons, Edmonton (11-5) has a new coach—former Green Bay Packer assistant Pete Kettela. But with veteran receiver Tom Scott (1,518 yards, 13 touchdowns) and the CFL's top defensive performer, linebacker James Parker, returning, along with Kelly, Moon and running back Jim Germany, the Eskies should continue to be strong.

That might not necessarily be true of Edmonton's West Division rivals, the Winnipeg Blue Bombers (11-5), who've lost all-star running back William Miller (202 carries, 1,076 yards) to the NFL Cleveland Browns and Coach Ray Jauch to the USFL Washington Federals. Meanwhile, 14-year tackle John Helton has retired. Former Edmonton assistant Cal Murphy has assumed control of the club.

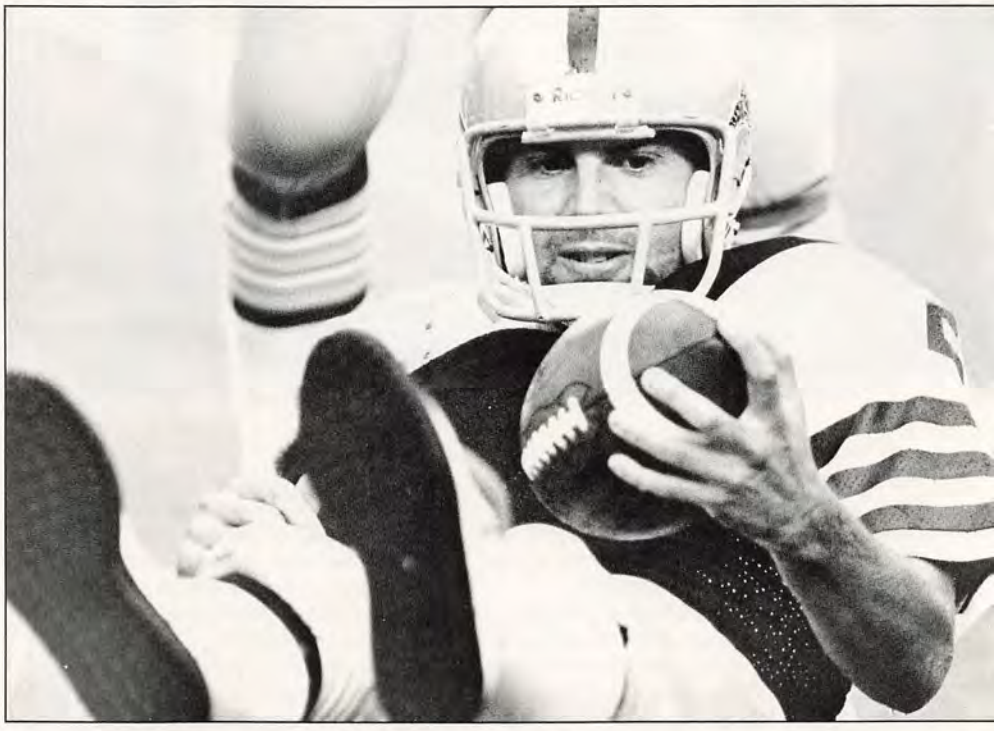
The third-place Calgary Stampeders (9-6-1) boast two all-stars, linebacker Dan Bass and defensive back Ray Odums. But a third All-CFL player, tackle Lloyd Fairbanks, played out his option and joined the Montreal Concordes. The Stamps also lack a quality quarterback.

The British Columbia Lions (9-7) lured another assistant away from Edmonton—Don Matthews—appointing him as their head coach. Lions' receiver Mervyn Fernandez (San Jose) was the league's Rookie of the Year. Competing at quarterback are veteran Roy Dewalt and Washington rookie Tim Cowan.

The Saskatchewan Roughriders (6-9-1) are counting on sophomore quarterback Joey "747" Adams to lead them into the playoffs, but they'll have to do it without record-setting receiver Joey Walters (101 receptions, 1,670 yards), who signed with the Federals.

In the East Division, Ottawa (5-11) is expected to improve. Running back Alvin "Skip" Walker led the league in rushing (201 carries, 1,141 yards and 18 touchdowns) and was a unanimous all-star selection. The Riders will try Wichita State rookie Prince McJunkins at quarterback.

Quarterback Warren Moon (above) was up to his usual role, leading Edmonton to another title. Tom Clements of Hamilton, like all quarterbacks occasionally sacked, had the best completion average.

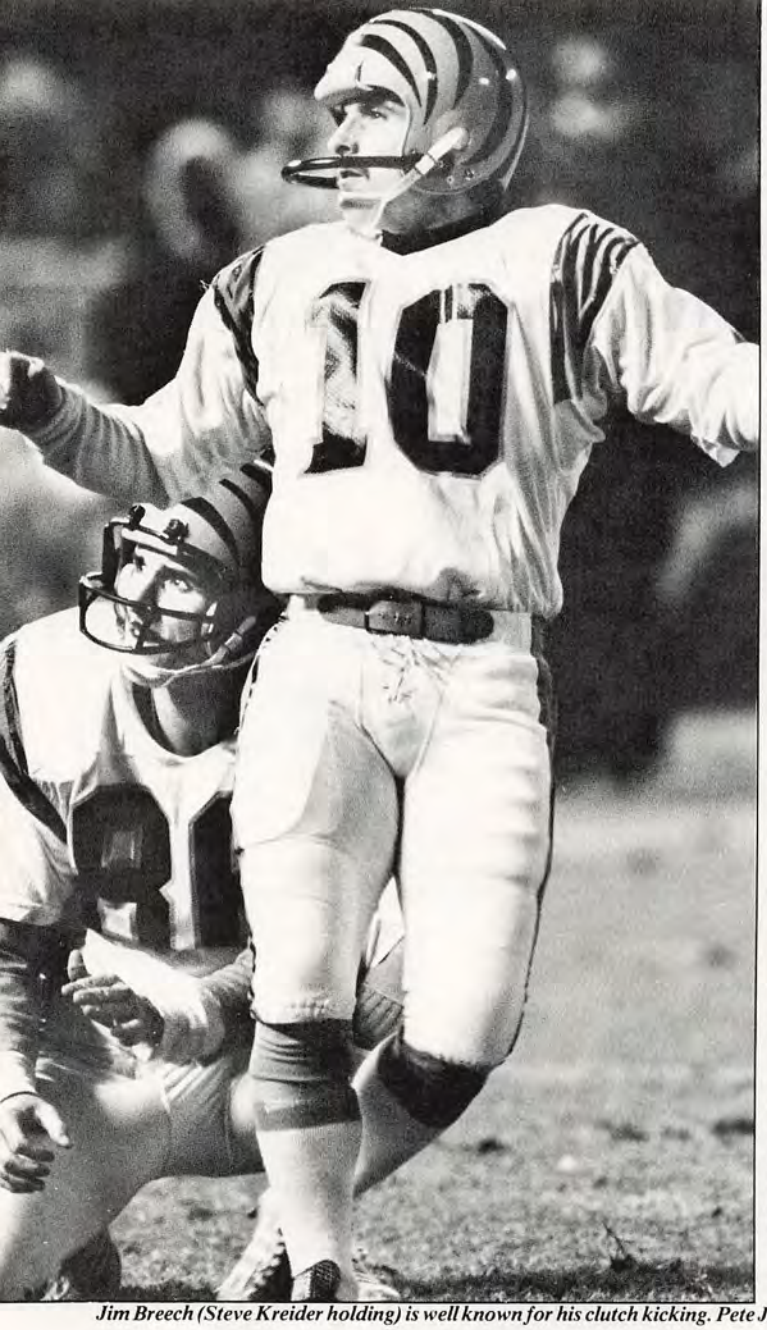


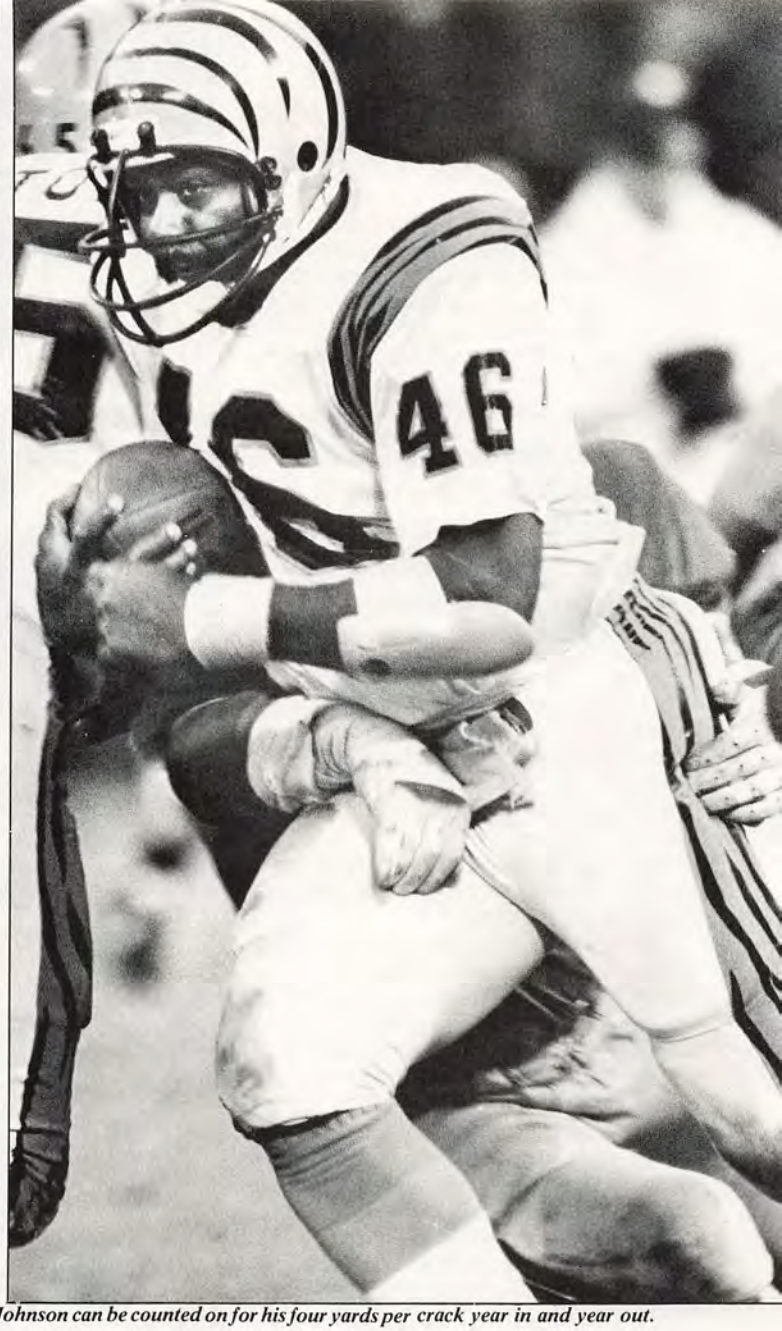
While the Hamilton Tiger Cats' (8-7-1) Clements registered the best completion average in the CFL last season and tossed for 4,706 yards, several players are unhappy with their contracts, including all-stars Ben Zambiasi (linebacker), David Shaw (corner) and Keith Baker (receiver).

The Montreal Concordes (2-14), a team in turmoil last season, seem to have sorted out a number of their problems. But like Calgary, they've had trouble finding a quarterback.

The year's Grey Cup final will be played Nov. 27 in Vancouver's new 60,000-seat domed stadium, Canada's only covered football shrine.

END





Jim Breech (Steve Kreider holding) is well known for his clutch kicking. Pete Johnson can be counted on for his four yards per crack year in and year out.

(Cincinnati continued)

because a lawsuit that year postponed the NFL draft until May, and Toronto kept offering me money, saying I wouldn't be drafted high by the NFL and might not be drafted at all, that it would be a terrible embarrassment.

"I'd played in two postseason games, the Hula Bowl and the Japan Bowl, and was anything but pleased by my performance. The players didn't think much of the Ivy League and neither did the coaches. I was the target of their jovial remarks and attitudes. In one of the games, I had three opportunities on one play to tackle Joe Washington in the open field and missed. The coach shot me a look that said, 'I knew you weren't a football player.' "

That's why Williams was stunned when the Bengals picked him in the third round of the 1976 draft. "I thought it was a tremendous vote of confidence," says Williams.

"When I joined the Bengals, I was introduced to the Nautilus weight lifting machine. We didn't have a strength coach at Dartmouth. When I started on the Nautilus, I weighed 214 pounds and did the 40 in 4.65 seconds. Within two months after Kim Wood (Bengal strength coach) got me on the Nautilus, I raised my weight to 225 and got my speed down to 4.5. I could hardly believe it."

Williams became a starter in the fourth game of his rookie season. The day before the game, linebacker Ron Pritchard collapsed during a walk-through drill.

"He was the team comic and everyone said, 'C'mon Pritch,' but he wasn't joking," says Williams. "They had to operate on his knee. I got the opportunity to start and I've been starting ever since."

Williams is recognized as one of the tough hitters in pro football. "A couple of years ago, when Ricky (Patton, a high school teammate of Williams) was with Atlanta, I made a real good shot on Wallace Francis and no one was more excited than Ricky," says Williams. "He ran up to me, gave me five, and said, 'Man, you're the same old hitter.' "

In a gesture to help his teammates feel the same intensity about defense, Williams often has shaped the letter *C* with tape on his helmet. He says it means "Cincinnasty."

But the Bengals had problems living up to it. In three of their last four games, the defense allowed 50 points to the Chargers, 27 to the lowly Oilers, and 44 to the Jets. Even with Ken Anderson's offense that scored 232 points and averaged 365.3 yards, giving the defense plenty of rest, there were only 22 sacks, almost half by Edwards and Williams.

The defense was vulnerable to the pass. Opponents completed 61.1 percent of their attempts for 2,250 yards. The rush was much better. The Whitley-Edwards-Browner rush line scattered enough blockers to help limit opposing teams to 94.4 yards a game and

only eight touchdowns on the ground.

Part of the regular-season success of the Bengals last year must be attributed to a soft schedule. Cincinnati beat a weak Oiler team in the opener, then lost to the Steelers for a 1-1 prestrike mark. After resuming play, the Bengals edged Philadelphia 18-14. The rest of the way, the Bengals whipped the Raiders, Colts, Browns, Seahawks and Oilers again. They were crushed by Dan Fouts and the Chargers 50-34.

Anderson had the kind of season that Bengal fans have come to expect.

What helped was a spectacular season by kicker Jim Breech, as well as some of the best offensive firepower displayed by any NFL team. Breech kicked 14 of 18 field-goal attempts, including a 50-yarder and nine of 31 or more yards. His misses were attempts from 39, 43, 47 and 51 yards.

Anderson had the kind of season that Bengal fans have come to expect. Throwing 309 times, third-highest total in the NFL, he completed a league-high 218 passes for 70.6 percent accuracy. No other NFL passer reached 64 percent.

One reason he was sacked so many times (26) was that tackle Anthony Munoz played all year with chips in his ankle and elbow.

The Redskins proved last year that you can win a championship with a one-back attack. Until the Bengals discover a mate for the 250-pound Johnson, they will be forced to set up in a single-back, double-tight end set and hope that Anderson can get the job done.

After Johnson's 622 yards, the Bengals had only one rusher over 85 yards. Halfback Charles Alexander gained 207 yards with only a 3.2-yard average. The longest run by a Bengal back was a 21-yarder by Johnson; longest halfback run was 12 yards by Alexander.

Elsewhere, the Bengals are loaded on offense. Collinsworth is a rangy, gifted split end. Ross is a clever tight end who runs beautiful delay routes from inside. Isaac Curtis will be 32 entering training camp but is still a talented flanker. Off the bench, the Bengals can send Steve Kreider, an underrated deep threat, into the game. Despite his bulk, Johnson (153 catches for 1,149 yards over the past five seasons) can catch in the flat and over the middle on circle routes.

The big, experienced Bengal offensive line is led by Munoz, left tackle Mike Wilson, right guard Max Montoya and center Blair Bush. And Cincinnati drafted Nebraska center Dave Rimington, two-time Outland Trophy winner, in the first round.

Ross, who caught 47 passes for 508 yards and three touchdowns last year. Collinsworth has had 67-catch and 49-catch seasons.

END

David Verser caught only four passes but one resulted in a 56-yard touchdown.

(Pro Draft continued)

Cleveland—The Cousineau deal cost the Browns their first-round pick, but they still might have found the game-breaking wide receiver they have long sought. Arizona State's Ron Brown is a world-class sprinter but has been a receiver only a year after a shift from the defensive backfield.

Third-round pick Reggie Camp from California was a late starter but has strength to overcome lack of technique.

NAME-POS-SCHOOL	RD	PICK	SEQ
Ron Brown, wr, Arizona State	2	13	41
Reggie Camp, de, California	3	12	68
Bill Contz, ot, Penn State	5	10	122
Tim Stracka, te, Wisconsin	6	5	145
Trade from Chicago			
Dave Puzzuoli, dt, Pittsburgh	6	9	149
Rocky Belk, wr, Miami (Fla.)	7	8	176
Trade from Chicago			
Mike McClearn, og, Temple	8	13	209
Thomas Hopkins, ot, Alabama A&M	10	11	262
Boyce Green, rb, Carson-Newman	11	10	288
Howard McAdoo, lb, Michigan State	11	26	305
Trade from Los Angeles Raiders			
Paul Farren, ot, Boston University	12	9	316

Houston—Good news for Earl Campbell. After trading their No. 3 pick to Seattle, the Oilers still got the offensive lineman they wanted in USC's 6-5, 265-pound Bruce Matthews, who could help Houston for a long, long time. The Seattle trade also allowed them to load up in the next two rounds.

Thus, joining Matthews in the offensive line will be California tackle Harvey Salem. Houston landed defensive backs Keith Bostic of Michigan and Steve Brown of Oregon plus LSU's classy linebacker, Tim Joiner, and Stanford tight end Chris Dressel.

NAME-POS-SCHOOL	RD	PICK	SEQ
Bruce Matthews, og, Southern Cal	1	9	9
Trade from Seattle			
Harvey Salem, ot, California	2	2	30
Keith Bostic, db, Michigan	2	14	42
Trade from Seattle			
Tim Joiner, lb, Louisiana State	3	2	58
Chris Dressel, te, Stanford	3	13	69
Trade from Seattle			
Steve Brown, db, Oregon	3	27	83
Trade from Miami			
Greg Hill, db, Oklahoma State	4	2	86
Mike McCloskey, te, Penn State	4	4	88
Trade from Los Angeles Rams			
Larry Moriarty, rb, Notre Dame	5	2	114
Jerome Foster, dt, Ohio State	5	27	139
Trade from Miami			
Steve Haworth, db, Oklahoma	6	2	142
Herkie Walls, wr, Texas	7	2	170
Robert Thompson, lb, Michigan	8	2	198
Kevin Potter, db, Missouri	9	2	226

Pittsburgh—Last year the Steelers ranked second in the league in quarterback sacks, and their '83 opponents had best beware. Babe Ruth has been inserted in the Steel Curtain.

"Well, he's sort of built like Babe Ruth," Art Rooney comments of Texas Tech noseguard Gabriel Rivera, a 285-pound pass rusher who was seldom blocked against Washington last year when he was named AP Player of the Week. Joining Rivera in Pittsburgh will be Kansas receiver Wayne Capers, who has 9.5 speed, and San Diego State linebacker Todd Seabaugh, who has size and speed.

NAME-POS-SCHOOL	RD	PICK	SEQ
Gabriel Rivera, dt, Texas Tech	1	21	21
Wayne Capers, wr, Kansas	2	24	52
Todd Seabaugh, lb, San Diego State	3	23	79
Bo Metcalf, db, Baylor	4	22	106
Paul Skansi, wr, Washington	5	21	133
Gregg Garrity, wr, Penn State	5	28	140
Trade from Washington			
Eric Williams, db, NC State	6	24	164
Mark Kirchner, og, Baylor	7	23	191
Henry Odom, rb, SC State	8	3	199
Trade from Denver			
Craig Dunaway, te, Michigan	8	22	218
Blake Wingle, og, UCLA	9	21	244
Roosevelt Straughter, db, NE La.	10	24	275
Mark Raugh, te, West Virginia	11	23	302
Roger Wiley, fb, Sam Houston State	12	22	330

AFC WEST

Denver—With Paul Howard and Claudie Minor close to retirement, the Broncos employed the No. 4 spot in the '83 draft to draft a "franchise" offensive lineman in 6-4, 272-pound Chris Hinton of Northwestern. A week later, rights to Hinton went to Baltimore in Denver's trade for Elway.

Denver also drafted Miami offensive tackle Mark Cooper, who is versatile enough to be considered at tight end. Clinton Sampson, a wide receiver from San Diego State, has the speed to become a home-run threat.

NAME-POS-SCHOOL	RD	PICK	SEQ
Chris Hinton, og, Northwestern	1	4	4
Mark Cooper, ot, Miami (Fla.)	2	3	31
Clinton Sampson, wr, San Diego St.	3	4	60
Weedy Harris, lb, Houston	5	4	116
Bruce Baldwin, db, Harding	5	13	125
Trade from New Orleans			
Victor Heflin, db, Delaware State	6	3	143
Myron Dupree, db, NC Central	7	4	172
Gary Kubiak, qb, Texas A&M	8	1	197
Trade from Baltimore			
Brian Hawkins, db, San Jose State	9	4	228
Walt Bowyer, de, Arizona State	10	3	254
Don Bailey, c, Miami (Fla.)	11	4	283
Karl Mecklenburg, dt, Minnesota	12	3	310

Kansas City—New Coach John Mackovic clearly was out shopping for a quarterback on draft day and thinks he found a bargain in Penn State's Todd Blackledge. He's big, extremely intelligent, his father is a former coach and he has a pro-style delivery.

Then Mackovic turned his attention to the offensive line to select David Lutz, a 6-5, 270-pounder from Georgia Tech, and in the third round selected defensive back Albert Lewis of Grambling, who reminds some fans at that school of James Hunter.

NAME-POS-SCHOOL	RD	PICK	SEQ
Todd Blackledge, qb, Penn State	1	7	7
David Lutz, ot, Georgia Tech	2	6	34
Albert Lewis, db, Grambling	3	5	61
Ron Wetzel, te, Arizona State	4	8	92
Jim Arnold, p, Vanderbilt	5	7	119
Ellis Gardner, ot, Georgia Tech	6	6	146
Ken Thomas, rb, San Jose State	7	5	173
Daryl Posey, rb, Mississippi College	7	11	179
Trade from New Orleans			
Irv Eatman, ot, UCLA	8	8	204
Adam Lingner, c, Illinois	9	7	231
Mark Shumate, dt, Wisconsin	10	6	257
Dwayne Jackson, de, SC State	11	5	284
Kenny Jones, ot, Tennessee	12	8	315

Los Angeles Raiders—Al Davis cranked up the Elway rumor mill for a few hours, then settled for the somewhat less sensational choice of Don Mosebar, the 6-7, 270-pound USC offensive lineman who will shore up an area weakened by the retirement of Art Shell.

The Raiders also landed Rutgers defensive lineman Bill Pickel, who is coming off a back injury, and promising Washington linebacker Tony Caldwell.

NAME-POS-SCHOOL	RD	PICK	SEQ
Don Mosebar, ot, Southern Cal	1	26	26
Bill Pickel, dt, Rutgers	2	26	54
Tony Caldwell, lb, Washington	3	26	82
Greg Townsend, de, TCU	4	26	110
Dokie Williams, wr, UCLA	5	26	138
Jeff McCall, rb, Clemson	7	26	194
Mike Dotterer, rb, Stanford	8	26	222
Kent Jordan, te, St. Mary's (Calif.)	9	26	249
Mervyn Fernandez, wr, San Jose St.	10	26	277
Scott Lindquist, qb, Northern Ariz.	12	26	333

San Diego—The Beach Boys have become Razorbacks. After signing Dan Fouts to a new contract, the Chargers turned their attention away from Elway and looked to Arkansas for help on draft day.

Razorbacks Billy Ray Smith, a linebacker, and Gary Anderson, a wide receiver, were picked in the first round, and Arkansas defensive back Danny Waters was selected in the fourth round. "We rated Smith absolutely the best available guy for our needs," commented Owner Gene Klein.

With their third pick in the opening round, the Chargers were able to add defensive back Gill Byrd, an outstanding athlete still coming back from knee surgery.

NAME-POS-SCHOOL	RD	PICK	SEQ
Billy Ray Smith, lb, Arkansas	1	5	5
Trade from San Francisco			
Gary Anderson, wr, Arkansas	1	20	20
Trade from Green Bay			
Gill Byrd, db, San Jose State	1	22	22
Trade from San Diego thru San Francisco			
Danny Walters, db, Arkansas	4	11	95
Trade from Cleveland			
Trumaine Johnson, wr, Grambling	6	1	141
Trade from Baltimore			
Bill Elko, dt, Louisiana State	7	24	192
Earnest Jackson, rb, Texas A&M	8	6	202
Trade from San Francisco			
Mike Green, lb, Oklahoma State	9	22	245
Bruce Mathison, qb, Nebraska	10	21	272
Tim Kearse, wr, San Jose State	11	24	303
Tim Spencer, rb, Ohio State	11	28	307
Trade from Washington			
Billy Blaylock, db, Tennessee Tech	12	7	314
Trade from Chicago			
Chuck Ehin, dt, Brigham Young	12	23	329

Seattle—New Coach Chuck Knox sacrificed his positions in the second and third round to move into a position to draft Penn State running back Curt Warner as No. 3 man in the first round. Knox thought it essential to bolster the running attack to take some of the pressure off Zorn.

"You look at the teams that are winning consistently, and they have somebody who can run with that football; this is a first step in getting our program turned around," Knox says.

NAME-POS-SCHOOL	RD	PICK	SEQ
Curt Warner, rb, Penn State	1	3	3
Trade from L.A. Rams thru Houston			
Chris Castor, wr, Duke	5	11	123
Reginald Gipson, rb, Alabama A&M	6	10	150
Sam Merriman, lb, Idaho	7	9	177
Matt Hernandez, ot, Purdue	8	14	210
Bob Clasby, ot, Notre Dame	9	13	236
Pete Speros, og, Penn State	10	12	263
Bob Mayberry, og, Clemson	11	11	290
Don Dow, ot, Washington	12	10	317

END

(Philadelphia continued)

minutes played last year, has shown no sign of letting up at left tackle.

Frank Giddens, entering his third season, improved late last season and will work at the opposite tackle. Ron Baker, with five years experience, and Steve Kenney, with three, will handle the right and left guard spots respectively.

Again, however, the bottom line for the Eagles will be defense. It will have to hold the fort while the offense regains stature (it is noteworthy that no less than nine of the Eagles' draft selections were used for offensive players).

Leading the way in the Philadelphia forward wall will be left end Dennis Harrison, the only Eagles' Pro Bowl selection last year. He established a personal high of 10 and one-half sacks in the abbreviated season. At the other end will be veteran Carl Hairston. Ken Clarke again will work at the middle guard spot. Clarke, with 85 tackles last year, had a good season and could develop into one of the top linemen in the league.

The bottom line for the Eagles will be defense. It will have to hold the fort while the offense regains stature.

The linebacking seems adequate with versatile Jerry Robinson, leading tackler with 95—plus three interceptions—at one of the inside positions along with veteran Frank LeMaster. On the outside will be John Bunting, an 11-year veteran, and Reggie Wilkes, in his sixth season.

The cornerback combination of Herman Edwards, who led the Eagles in interceptions with five, and aggressive Roynell Young, who picked off four, is exceptional. Randy Logan is at strong safety and Brenard Wilson is the starter at free safety, but the staff is concerned about the Eagles' last line of defense. Backups John Sciarra and Ray Ellis, and second-round draft selection Wes Hopkins of SMU will get their chances to prove themselves.

The kicking game is another plus with Tony Franklin handling field goals and extra points and Max Runager (40.5 average) due to punt again. And there is Wally Henry, who averaged 22.5 yards per kickoff return and 5.2 on punt returns.

Aside from getting the offensive bugs worked out and restoring the frame of mind the Eagles had two years ago, Campbell also must concern himself with a depth problem. Injuries have taken a heavy toll in recent seasons, and it is imperative to develop a higher quality of backup strength.

It's the kind of challenge the Swamp Fox has been waiting for.

END

Randy Logan (above) will be in the 11th year at strong safety for the Eagles. Tony Franklin (barefooted, of course) is one of the league's most dependable kickers.

Athlon's
You Be the Coach

Whether you're watching a game from the stands or on television at home, second guessing the National Football League's coaches is easy. Hindsight is always 20-20 vision.

But for those NFL coaches who call the plays, there's no second-guessing. They have to live or die by the plays they call—when they call them.

Now here's your chance to match wits with the man who calls the plays for the explosive San Diego Chargers. In the following 12 game situations, you call the plays for Ernie Zampese, San Diego's assistant head coach.

Zampese's chief responsibility is the passing game. During his four-year tenure with Air Coryell, the Chargers have averaged 289.3 passing yard per game.

In 1980, San Diego set an NFL record for most passing yardage in a season with 4,531 yards. They broke their own record the next season with a total of 4,739 yards through the air. In last year's strike-shortened campaign, the Chargers averaged an awesome 336 passing yards per game.

Coach Zampese has picked the play he would call in each of the following make-believe situations. You make your own decision on which plays to call, then see how your choices stack up against a proven NFL coach.

Play 1: San Diego at Los Angeles Raiders, Chargers' ball on the Raider 12-yard line, 16 seconds remain in the first half. 21-16 Raiders lead, 4th down and a foot to go. One time-out remaining.

(a) Field goal.
(b) Halfback dive.
(c) Play action pass to split end in corner of end zone.

Play 2: San Diego still at Los Angeles against the Raiders, Chargers' ball at midfield, now leading 23-21 late in the third quarter, 2nd down, 14 yards to go.

(a) Flanker reverse.
(b) Pass to split end on down and out route.
(c) Halfback draw.

Play 3: Dallas at San Diego, Chargers' ball at their own 12-yard line, 9 minutes remain in the game, Cowboys lead 17-7, 3rd down and nine to go.

(a) Halfback power sweep.
(b) Pass to flanker on deep curl pattern.
(c) Play action fake, deep pass to slot back.

Play 4: Seattle at San Diego, Chargers' ball at the Seahawk 26-yard line, 13 seconds remain in the game, no timeouts left. Seahawks lead 27-24, 2nd down, 10 to go.

(a) Field goal.
(b) Pass to flanker on corner route.
(c) Throw out of bounds to stop the clock.

Play 5: Cleveland at San Diego, Chargers' ball on their own 44-yard line, 3rd down, just over three yards to go. 12 minutes remaining in the game, score tied 21-21.

(a) Screen pass to halfback.
(b) Halfback power sweep.
(c) Pass to tight end in the flat.

Play 6: Washington at San Diego, Chargers' ball on the Washington 2-yard line. One minute and 36 seconds before the half, Redskins lead 14-10, 3rd down and goal to go. Two timeouts left.

(a) Halfback power sweep.
(b) Fake inside, quarterback bootleg.
(c) Fake inside, pass to tight end across the middle.

Play 7: Washington still at San Diego, Chargers' ball at their own 33. 13 minutes left in the third quarter, Redskins lead 21-17, 2nd down and one yard to go.

(a) Fullback off tackle.
(b) Screen pass to halfback.
(c) Fake inside plunge, bomb to flanker.

Play 8: San Diego still at home against Washington, game now tied 24-24. Chargers' ball at the Redskin 40, three and a half minutes to go in the game, 4th down and one.

(a) Punt.
(b) Halfback off tackle.
(c) Field goal.

Play 9: San Diego at Pittsburgh, Chargers' ball on their own 24. Five minutes remain in the half, Steelers lead 10-7, 3rd down, 18 yards to go.

(a) Pass to flanker on deep down and out route.
(b) Screen pass to halfback.
(c) Deep pass to split end on fly pattern.

Play 10: San Diego still at Pittsburgh, Chargers' ball 2nd down and ten at their own 39-yard line. Steelers now lead 23-21 with 54 seconds left in the game. 2 timeouts remaining.

(a) 15 yard sideline pass to tight end.
(b) Pass to split end on a post pattern.
(c) Screen pass to halfback.

Play 11: San Diego at New England, Chargers' ball and a 14-10 lead at the Patriot 27-yard line. With 1:05 left in the half, it's 4th down, 1½ yards to go.

(a) Field goal.
(b) Play action pass to tight end.
(c) Halfback power sweep.

Play 12: New York Jets at San Diego, Jets lead 30-24 with 2:57 remaining in the game. Chargers' ball at their own 47, 1st down, 10 yards to go.

(a) Deep pass to flanker on flag route.
(b) Screen pass to halfback.
(c) Pass to split end on deep down and out pattern.

ANSWERS

ZAMPESE: 1. a (Field goal.) 2. c (Halfback draw.) 3. b (Pass to flanker on deep curl pattern.) 4. b (Pass to flanker on corner route) 5. c (Pass to tight end in flat.) 6. a (Halfback power sweep.) 7. c (Fake inside plunge, bomb to flanker.) 8. a (Punt.) 9. a (Pass to flanker on deep down and out route.) 10. c (Screen pass to halfback.) 11. a (Field goal.) 12. c (Pass to split end on deep down and out pattern.)

END

"I practically live in Lee jeans 'cause Lee gives me the best fitting most comfortable jeans. Lee Riders® Wouldn't tackle a day without 'em."

Tony Dorsett
All-Pro running back

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The brand that fits.

SAN DIEGO

Since he was a four-sport star for the New Smyrna Beach High School Barracudas and an All-American for the Florida Gators, it seems inevitable that Wes Chandler eventually will be identified by defensive backs in the AFC West as "Jaws."

More than a few of them have been bitten.

The trick is to continue playing as though nothing has happened, trying to ignore the fact that the seat of your pants is missing.

"When you play the Chargers you've got to maintain your composure regardless of what happens," Baltimore Colts' Coach Frank Kush says he learned in his first season in the NFL. "They can go bing, bing, bing and the official is raising his arms signaling a touchdown."

"When coaches have meetings and are drawing plays, there's an old saying that the guy with the chalk last always wins. They're that kind of team. They always seem to have it last."

Whereupon the Chargers went bing, bing, bing, bing, bing in completing five touchdown passes against the Colts in a 44-26 game played late last fall. Baltimore was bitten twice by "Jaws" when Chandler pulled in 41- and 44-yard receptions from Dan Fouts.

"They make it so methodical it looks like a blackboard offense," Kush sighs. "When coaches have meetings and are drawing plays, there's an old saying that the guy with the chalk last always wins. They're that kind of team. They always seem to have it last."

On Don Coryell's chalkboard in the depths of Jack Murphy Stadium in San Diego, Chandler is represented by a shark-fin wake headed in the general direction of the enemy goal post.

In the final four games of the regular season, Chandler caught 27 passes for 641 yards and eight touchdowns, a pretty fair indication that he'll be flying first class this year with Air Coryell.

In his last full season at New Orleans, where fans sometimes wear paper sacks over their heads in anticipation of Mardi Gras, Chandler averaged 60 air yards per game. Last year with the Chargers, he advanced the football an average of 115 yards a game on his catches. His typical reception covered 21.1 yards.

"We don't judge players on what they've done elsewhere," says General Manager Johnny Sanders, who engineered the trade that brought Chandler to San Diego early in the 1981 campaign. "We're only interested in what they do here. A man's past means nothing to our coach."

Chandler was one of nine San Diego starters who arrived in the Charger camp via trades or after waiver claims. The others were wide receiver Charlie Joiner, guards Ed White and Doug Wilkerson, fullback John Cappelletti, running back Chuck Muncie, defensive end Leroy Jones, defensive back Tim Fox and kicker Rolf Benirschke.

Chandler arrived just after John Jefferson departed, headed for Green Bay. Sanders used Aundra Thompson, a wide receiver he'd obtained from the Packers, plus first- and third-round selections to lure Chandler out of New Orleans.

There were those who predicted that Chandler would wilt under the scrutiny of Charger fans comparing him to the absent John Jefferson.

"Wes Chandler is not J.J.'s ghost," says tight end Kellen Winslow. "They are both great receivers." Obviously, Winslow is in a position to offer such evaluations. For the third straight year, he led the AFC in receptions.

And, of course, both Chandler and Winslow have benefited from the example of the seemingly ageless Joiner, who reached the 9,000-yard plateau last season. Pronounced a second-hand rose by the Bengals in 1976, Joiner bloomed anew in San Diego.

"I've done OK for someone who was happy just to be drafted," Joiner says with a

(continued)

Runner, receiver, blocker, return man: James Brooks of the Chargers is as versatile a back as the NFL can boast.

Bulky guard Ed White is a standout bodyguard so far as appreciative Charger backs are concerned.

(San Diego continued)

shrug. "I figure I was at a disadvantage when I came into the league because of my size (5-11, 183).

"You always hear coaches throw out flattering words about the guys they coach, but Charlie is as classy a guy as there is in this league," says Ernie Zampese, who coaches Charger receivers. "He's a professional in every sense, and I'll bet you he's never taken a loafing step on a football field in his life."

Collectively, the Chargers averaged 450.4 yards per game in 1982, third-highest average in the history of the NFL.

The offense pivots, of course, around Fouts, the perennial Pro Bowler who moved the ball for an average of more than 300 yards a game through the air in '82. When Fouts hit Winslow on a 12-yard screen pass in the fading seconds to beat Pittsburgh 31-28 in the first round of the playoffs, he had completed his 30th career game with 300 or more passing yards.

Muncie averaged 4.1 yards on 138 carries in 1982 and had his third consecutive 100-yard game in that same playoff match with the Steelers. There is no reason to suspect that he won't again be the key factor in San Diego's running game.

However, Muncie will have competition and/or support in the person of James Brooks, an all-purpose performer in the mold of Terry Metcalf, a one-man gang for Coryell when both were with the St. Louis Cardinals.

Drafted in the first round by the Chargers in 1981, Brooks fulfills Coryell's requirements in several areas.

"I envisioned James as an outstanding receiver out of the backfield and a breakaway threat as a runner who could also block," says Coryell. "We were also desperate at the time for a good return man. I thought of James as a tough, hard-working back, and he's done nothing since he's been here to disappoint me."

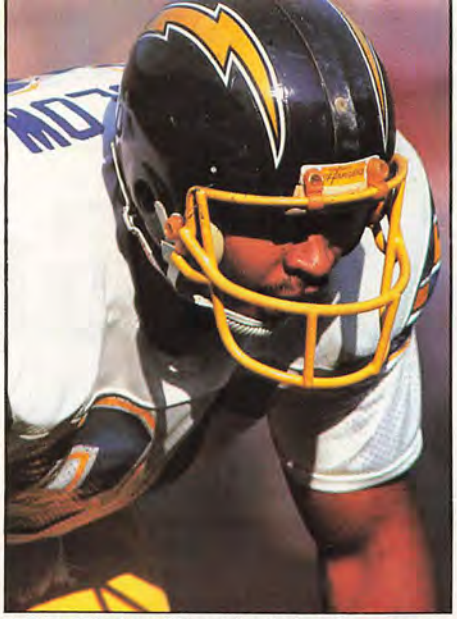
Little wonder Brooks can block. He played in the same Auburn backfield with William Andrews and Joe Cribbs, who went on to star at Atlanta and Buffalo, respectively. Last year Muncie and Brooks combined to contribute over 100 yards a game rushing in addition to catching 38 passes.

As Kush noted, the Chargers in recent years have been able to score points by the job lot. They sometimes yield touchdowns with the same rapidity, a major area of coaching concern entering this season.

The San Diego offensive line didn't allow many quarterback sacks. Neither did the Charger defense get many. Keith Ferguson led in this department with four and a half. Gary "Big Hands" Johnson had four.

Opponents averaged over 361 yards per game even while the Chargers were assembling a 6-3 regular-season record.

As expected, San Diego went heavily for defensive players in the draft, taking Billy Ray Smith, Arkansas end who will be a pro linebacker, as the fifth choice in round one. After picking Arkansas halfback-receiver Gary Anderson, also in the first round, the Chargers selected defensive backs Gill Byrd of San Jose State and Danny Walters of Arkansas.



Kellen Winslow: 231 catches in last three seasons.

Yet the defenders could rise to the occasion. In the playoff win over the Steelers, Cliff Thrift had 15 tackles, Woodrow Lowe 10, and the Steelers were held under 100 yards rushing, the fifth time that the Chargers reached this goal.

The Chargers have frustrated their fans with an inability to transform offensive genius into a berth in the Super Bowl. Many of the players share that feeling of discomfort.

" 'Wait till next year'; I really hate saying that," says defensive tackle Johnson. "I've been saying it for the last four years, though." The 1981 season ended on the frozen flats of Cincinnati, when Fouts departed the scene with frostbitten fingers.

"The older you get, the more disappointing it gets," Fouts admits. "But I'll tell you, I still think this is a great football team. I'm proud to be a member and I wouldn't trade places with anybody."

"You always have to hope and dream," says Joiner. "You can't be successful at anything unless you can dream. We've got to keep dreaming and keep working hard."

That philosophy is shared by Chandler, who again looks like the big-play man in San Diego's talented corps of receivers.

"Catching the ball is the hardest part for me," says Chandler. "Running is easiest. I don't try to interfere with my legs—I go where my legs lead me. The only time I might make an adjustment is in the open field, and it happens so fast I can't describe the moves I've made."

Let Frank Kush try.

How about Bing . . . Bing . . . and Bing!

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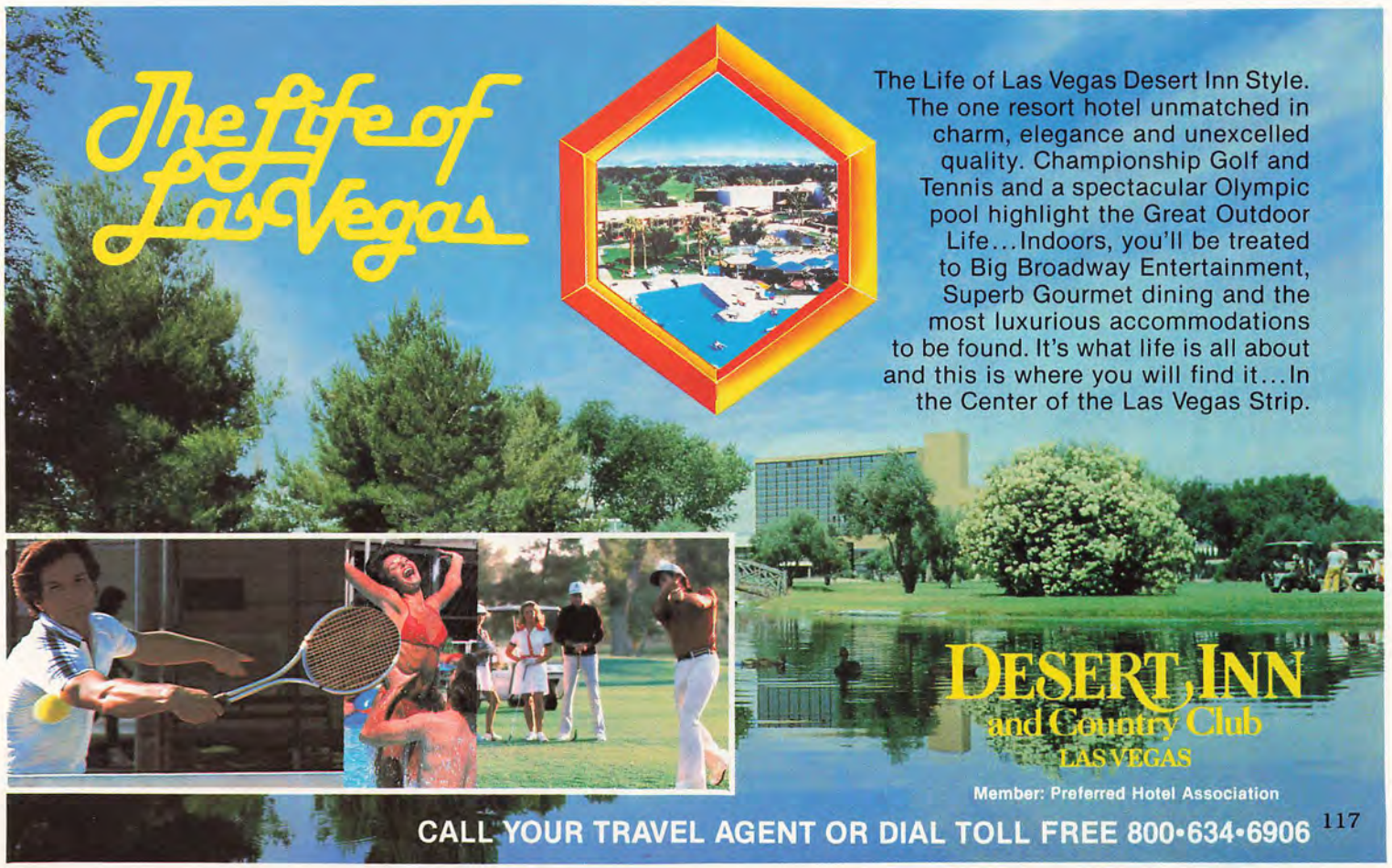
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Strike Commentary

Both Sides Grew Up

by Bob Oates

Another National Football League strike has ended the same old way. The owners are too clever and too tough for the players, who took another pounding last fall.

But five years from now, it could be different. Not that the players will ever steamroll the owners. Something even more unlikely. The two sides may actually get together, talk calmly and intelligently, and create something new on the professional athletic scene.

Until now, pro sports have exhibited only two organizational types:

1. Autocratic ownership fiefdoms, the feudalism of athletics, which were the rule in all sports until recently.

2. Every-man-for-himself free agency, capitalism run amuck, which is the current spectacle offered by big league baseball and basketball.

Is there a better way? The NFL may try to find out. From Pete Rozelle on down, the NFL has the most intelligent leadership in all sports, and pro football players are the best-educated athletes in the world. Now that these two groups have stung each other with a two-month strike that neither side thought could possibly last as long as that, they may decide in favor of dispassionate discussion. The upshot could be a whole new way to run our public games.

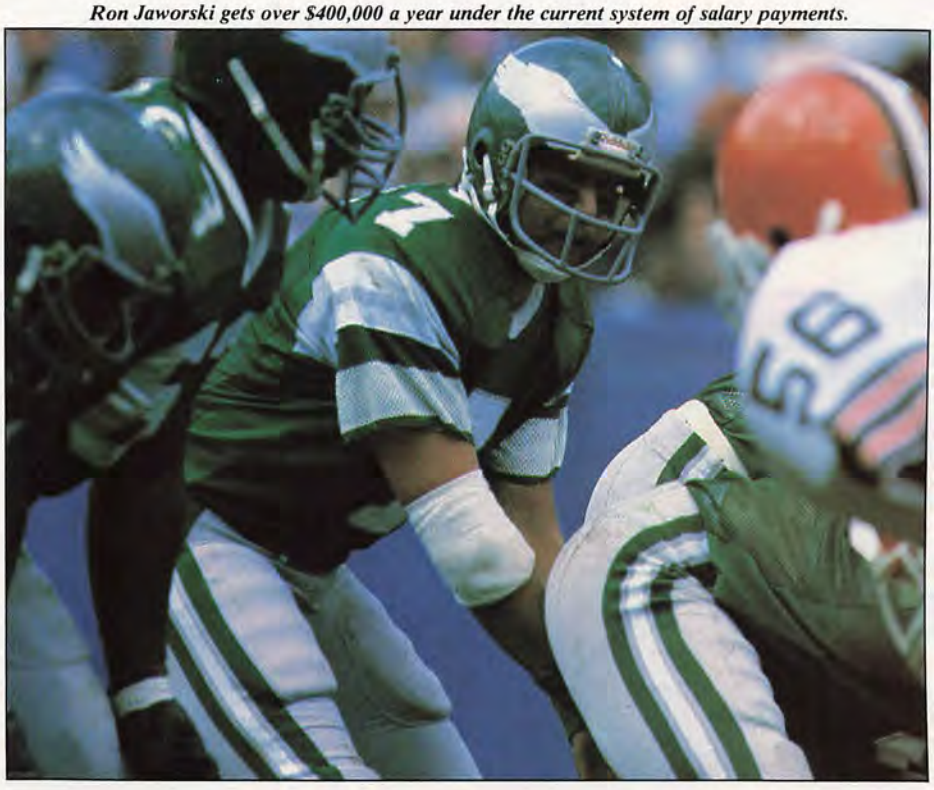
In the short run, the story of last fall was the story of a third-round TKO. Tough-minded, behind-the-scenes strategic planning by NFL leaders—principally Dallas President Tex Schramm, Tampa Bay President Hugh Culverhouse and Commissioner Rozelle—won the fight for the owners.

They won in a rout and they poured it on at the end.

The players lost because they wouldn't support their leaders—Executive Director Ed Garvey and the more battle-ready strategists among the player reps. Garvey might have beaten the owners eventually. He couldn't beat the owners and the players, too.

Specifically, Garvey couldn't keep in line those he wanted to benefit most—the 1,200 journeymen who block for, and tackle, the 200 stars.

Ron Jaworski gets over $400,000 a year under the current system of salary payments.



The longer the strike went on, the shakier the journeymen got, as they watched what became 10 percent of the paychecks an average pro can expect from his average 4.2-year career disappear into thin air. As the weeks passed, the fear gathered, and nobody ever won a strike negotiating from fear.

True, in the settlement the players made major financial improvements. In fact, by ownership figuring, the average NFL salary should double—from $100,000 to $200,000—over the five-year lifetime of the contract. This is doubtless—no contest—the greatest single-contract salary gain in the history of labor negotiations.

But by the time the strike started, the players were already going to make big money. Within a nickel or a dime, the $1.6 billion the owners offered on the eve of the strike is the $1.6 billion the players took eight game-less weeks later. In fact, in the blunt words of Schramm, "The players would have done better without the strike. The same money was there on the table, and they wouldn't have missed eight paychecks."

The point is that money was never the issue. The issue, as defined by Garvey and agreed to, at first, by an impressive 93 percent of the players, was for the players as a group to guarantee themselves a "fair share" of the total NFL pie—without resorting to the anarchic (and, in the judgment of these pros, unworkable) free-agent system.

And, at first, most of the players agreed on the means: a league-wide wage scale dividing up a fixed percentage of total NFL revenue.

This was always too radical for the owners. The strike was lost when it proved too radical for the players.

"A percentage of the gross," Schramm says, "with a fixed wage scale, takes away one of management's basic prerogatives. The payment you receive, based on your performance, should be a decision made by the people you work for. Percentage of the gross, as a concept, is totally alien to any business. In effect, it's unheard of."

Put simply, then, the question was this: Who runs pro football? The players wore T-shirts that said, "We *are* the game." And, for 55 percent of the total monies, at least, they did want more control—while also asking for a voice in the choice of referees, doctors, playing surfaces and other "management prerogatives."

"We thought Ed Garvey wanted joint control of the game," says Culverhouse. "This was

the real issue. It wasn't money or sharing of the revenues. We simply were not going to give him joint control of the NFL."

Though the owners usually phrased this more delicately—"preserving the structure of the game" being their favorite locution—the battle was for power and the owners won.

Thus the players, financial gains to the side, have lost again. But they didn't just beat themselves. As usual, they were creatively defeated by the NFL, which for years has reaped the most millions from TV and paid out the least to the help.

The successful campaign was begun several years earlier, masterminded officially by the league's Executive Committee and featuring strong input from Culverhouse.

"We started playing war games two years before the strike," Culverhouse says. "It was my suggestion. I had a background in war games during the Korean War at the Air Force War College. To win a battle you have to be ready for every eventuality, and playing war games helps you to do that."

The preparation was exhaustive and it showed throughout the strike.

"We played out all the possibilities we could think of," says Culverhouse. "What if it's a one-month strike? A two-month strike? A whole year? What if they pull a selective strike—only on Monday nights for instance? We collected a staff, wrote up computer programs, compiled a library full of documents. We knew everything Garvey had ever said on any issue, for example, and could trace the changes in his position down to the smallest nuances. And it did help us, publicly and privately."

Though the owners won't detail their strategy in public, their plans were obvious from the course of the strike, and consisted of three main elements:

1. Divide the players.

The league's public relations objective was to gain maximum publicity for the few players criticizing the union and Garvey, and, by extension, other players. The owners had only 28 people to keep in line, one owner per team. Garvey had 1,400 and he couldn't do it. Complaints by highly paid quarterbacks and other anti-union players were featured regularly in the media.

With only two or three union opponents on each club, the NFL knew the strike was on. With 12 or 15 dissidents wanting to resume the season, the strike was over. League emphasis was on expanding the two or three to 12 or 15.

2. Keep the focus on Ed Garvey.

The owners' line was this: It isn't our nice players who are against us; it's Ed Garvey who is misleading rather than leading our players.

If the owners had said, "We'll never let our players have any say in their own destiny," they'd have sounded like Simon Legree. By saying, "We'll never surrender to Ed Garvey," they could sound like Winston Churchill.

World War II and the strike did have a parallel, according to Schramm, who was quoted as saying only two men have kept Dallas Coach Tom Landry away from football—Adolf Hitler and Ed Garvey.

3. The NFL's public posture at all times must be no compromises.

The line: We'll *never* give you a wage scale; we'll *never* give you a percentage of the gross; we'll *never* give you any of Garvey's brainstorms. The game has been going on for 63 years and it's the greatest in the world and we're not going to change thing one. As soon as you (players) come off all this we can get things settled with more money for everybody. But you better decide soon. We can't play fewer than (choose one) 13 games, 12 games, 11 games, 10 games, 9 games.

Buffeted by all the propaganda, the players finally caved in—often unwittingly espousing the owners' line. "Garvey planted a lot of big ideas in the players' heads," said Randy White of the Cowboys. "He was going to change a system that's been around for some 60 years. And we've ended up with nothing."

And so, for now, in the world's richest sport, pro football players remain America's lowest-paid athletes.

But what of the future? Will the next negotiation be bitter, mean-spirited, slow-motion—and wind up as another owner walkover?

Maybe not. The NFL has long been the most enlightened and most sensible—even the most elegant—of America's professional sports organizations. Since the coming of Commissioner Rozelle, the league has made intelligent and refined moves in almost every area—from group TV negotiations to modernized rules (that have, among other things, nearly eliminated thuggery from the sport).

The one black hole has been labor relations. While denying the players free agency—a tool that surely isn't the answer in the long run—the owners have given the players nothing else of consequence in return. When the players this time proposed an alternative, the

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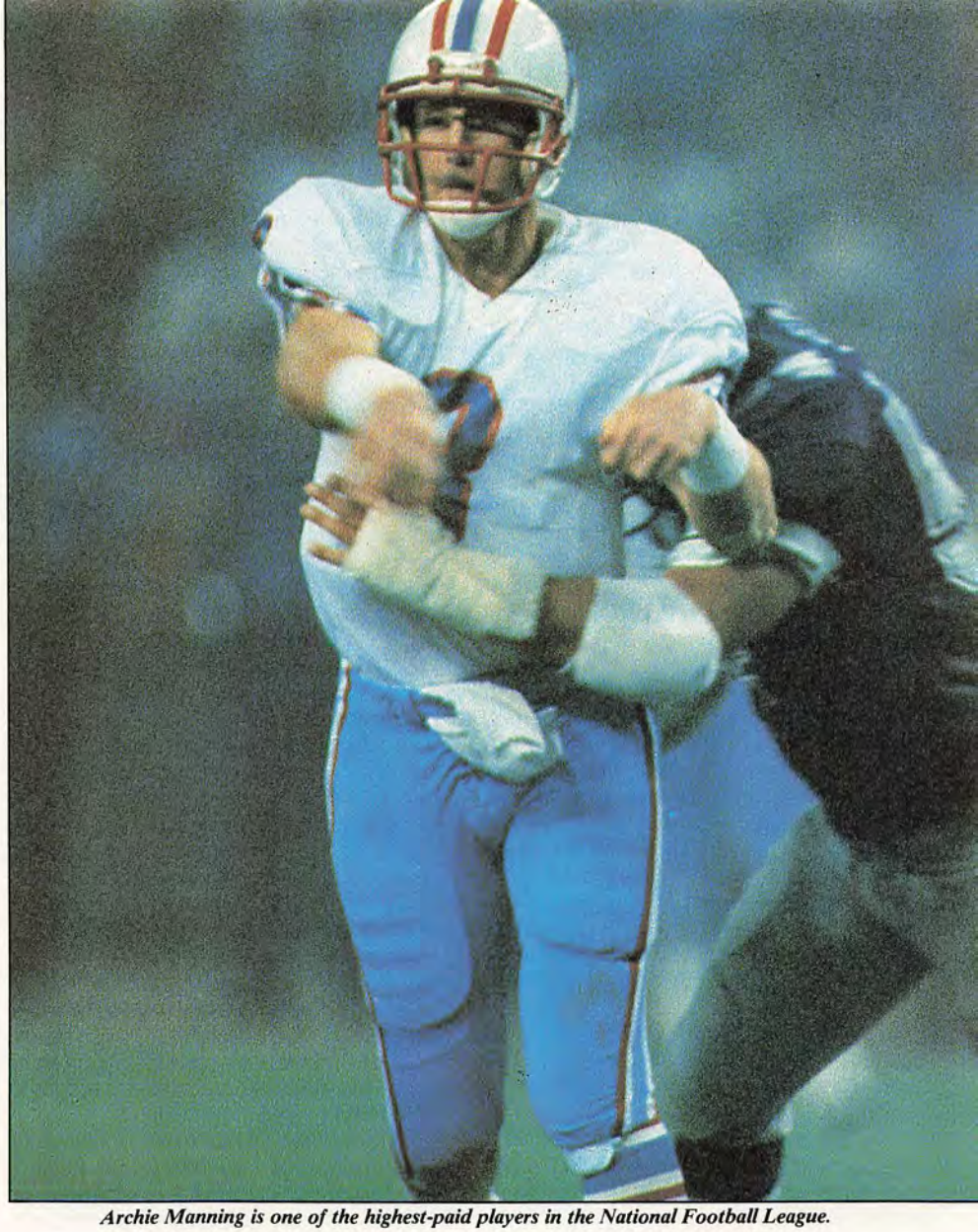

Archie Manning is one of the highest-paid players in the National Football League.

(Strike continued)

owners simply stonewalled them. They wouldn't even discuss a wage scale, let alone a percentage of the gross, until their lawyers—and a threat from the National Labor Relations Board—convinced them that negotiating a wage scale is a union's bare-bones legal right—the virtual *definition* of a union.

"We all have to grow up," says Dan Rooney, president of the Pittsburgh Steelers, surveying the owners' intransigence. "We don't need any more nitwit statements. We've got to realize that we've got to treat the players as partners, with respect. We need them."

Can this happen? Can the owners and players come together and make a reasonable decision for the good of all? Several factors give rise to optimism:

1. The union, though 0-2, gets stronger each time out. The first strike in 1974, taken during summer training camp, was a total loss, resulting in no contract at all for three more years. Last fall's strike, on the other hand, was sustained for eight regular-season paychecks while being fought over new and unfamiliar concepts—and resulted in a settlement with definite pluses.

With five years to figure out that they swallowed a propaganda line, and to educate themselves about their own revolutionary demands, the players could easily be more effective in 1987.

And though the owners kept their individual control of player salaries this time, with five years to think it over, they may realize that they don't really care. After all, individual negotiation means holdouts, the hated agents, bickering and team dissension. It's the most distasteful part of the game. If the owners negotiate a central wage scale agreement in 1987, they won't have to hassle over money for five years thereafter—a lovely vacation to contemplate.

2. The new contract does, in fact, take a great step toward mutual control of the money. Though the union didn't get a guaranteed percentage of the gross, it did get a guaranteed amount of money—$1.6 billion. If the individual contracts don't amount to this much over five years, the owners have to come up with the difference, probably into the pension fund.

In addition, the union did get a wage scale (by law it had to be given one if it wanted one; no other sports union ever did) though it is too low this time to make any appreciable difference. And it did get control over player agents for all veteran players (again, its legal right).

Finally, the players got severance pay, which, perhaps, will prove to be an economic disincentive for owners to ax expensive veterans. One of the major reasons the players wanted a league-wide central payment fund was to protect the older, high-priced players. With all owners chipping in by formula to a central fund—which then paid all the salaries, again by formula—no owner would be tempted to cut his older players just to save money.

The changes are marked, more in style this time than effectiveness, but they amount to a new direction nonetheless.

"Because the players were asking so much," says Rooney, "they didn't realize what they got. This is a truly revolutionary contract. It was a tremendous step for the union."

"Some owners may not like it," says Paul Martha, a key negotiator in the strike's final days, "but this agreement makes them partners with the players."

3. Some owners already indicate that a meaningful, centralized wage scale system is at least conceivable in the future. "Football would not die with an overall wage scale," Rooney says. "I'm not one to say the system can't change. But any system should be able to reward performance, on and off the field."

This is the main philosophical argument against a rigid wage-scale approach. In all sports it has always been accepted that good players should get better pay than mediocre ones, and that money should be used as incentive to excel. A simple wage scale based on seniority—an idea borrowed from standard union contracts—won't fly in football. A good runner, say, should be able to up his pay by some other means than simply getting old.

"Why should I pay a 13-year defensive back more than I pay my quarterback?" is the way Cleveland Browns' Owner Art Modell frames the question. Says Schramm: "The union demand for an industrial-style seniority system is just not adaptable to competitive sports, where performance is everything."

But is the present system much better in its accurate payment of performance? Eagles' quarterback Ron Jaworski earns more than $400,000 a year and Oilers' quarterback Archie Manning gets $600,000, and it would be very difficult to establish that these particular gentlemen are, despite their long experience, respectively four and six times better than the average professional, who earns $100,000.

The truth is that the present system is no system at all, with similarly skilled players getting widely varying salaries, depending on any particular owner's balance of charitability and knowledgability and the totally extraneous factor of agent intrusion.

The union answer to all these factors was a complicated (and often changed) system taking into account not only seniority but also individual performance criteria, team standings, selection to all-star games, the Pro Bowl and other factors. The goal, not acknowledged at the time, was nothing less than the creation of an entirely new economic structure, never before seen in any sport or, in fact, anywhere in the world. Proponents were trying to provide for both group welfare (through a centralized fund) and strong individual incentive. It was as if Karl Marx (the original critic of ownership excesses) were shaking hands with Adam Smith (the father of capitalism) at midfield.

It was an audacious attempt under tremendous time pressure, and it fell through. Devising a system intelligent enough to account for all the relevant factors, and then getting everyone to understand it and agree to it, was a task beyond the people who believed in it at the time. But the attraction remains. There would be a great aesthetic satisfaction, at the least, if every player everywhere were to get a salary generally acknowledged as correct for him—within the framework of a system that gave strong economic incentive to produce and to win, and in a setting where people weren't constantly engaged in disgusting public battles over every last dime.

And it could happen.

"During the strike there wasn't enough time to address that issue," Culverhouse says. "But an intelligent wage scale could be feasible. What we need is to start now. Right now. We need a lot of good meetings. We could gather, perhaps, six players, six coaches, six people from management, and six outside experts, people from Stanford Research Institute, Harvard, MIT. The whole idea would be to find how wages could be most fairly done. That's all most players want, to be treated fairly, as a group and individually. And management wants to *do* that. But to do it we have to get together, reestablish trust, and go to work."

It won't be easy. Most of Western history of recent centuries displays people who feel justified hating other people in conflicts over money and power. It's an ingrained cultural trait.

But it doesn't have to continue. The human race does improve. And why shouldn't the NFL, so centrally located in the American psyche, show the way?

It will take owners like Rooney and Culverhouse creating a reasonable climate. It will take players interested in self-education and willing to work for years on a still formless but promising concept. It will take Ed Garvey smoothing down his Irish temper and biting wit.

Parenthetically, Garvey got off, quite probably, the 10 best lines of the strike, including his summation of a confrontation between diminutive management representative Vince Lombardi Jr. and massive union president Gene Upshaw: "If Vince hits Upshaw and Upshaw ever hears about it, Vince is in a lot of trouble."

But I'm digressing. Most important, a new NFL world will take the sustained input of Pete Rozelle, if he's up to it, growing into his mythical role as commissioner of all of football. Rozelle is the most reasonable and persuasive of the people in sports. He can sell sensibility like no one else in the public eye. If he can visualize a creative solution, if he can build a bridge to the players while pulling along the owners (and if the players can resist making of him the target that the owners make of Garvey), then aficionados of civility may have reason to rejoice. Someday.

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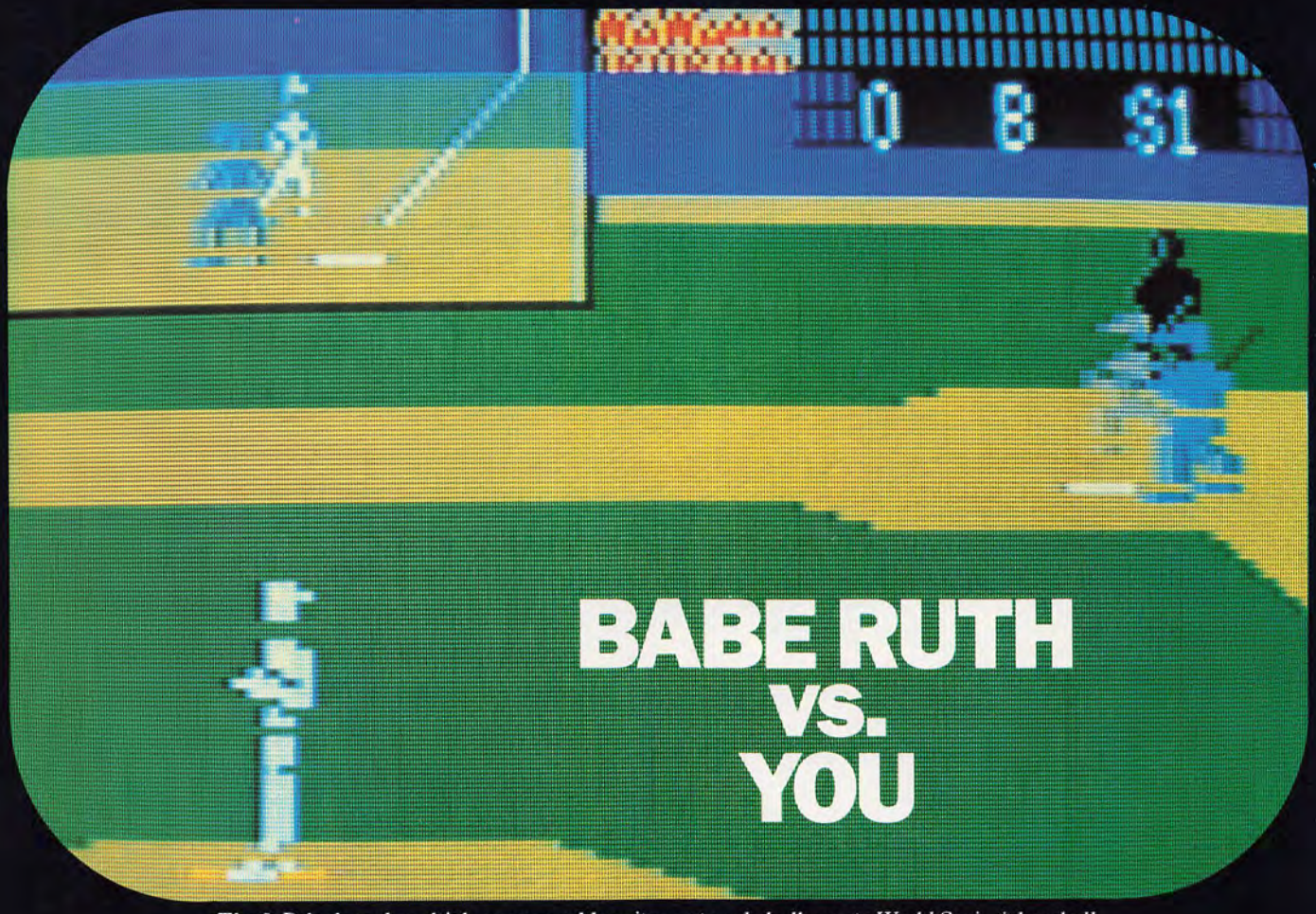

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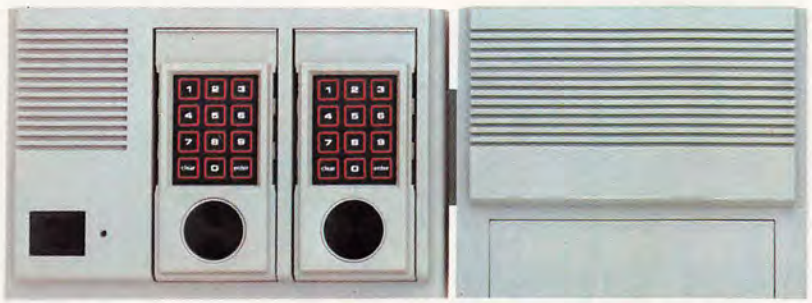

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Marcus Allen
Old Trojans Never Stop Running

by John Owen

He is, after all, just entering his second season in the NFL, so it would be inappropriate and premature to rank Marcus Allen among the deities of professional sports. Be serious, he's still only 23 years old.

OK, maybe he does remind some people in some way of the legendary Jim Brown. "Like Brown, he puts something extra on you when he's hit," explains Los Angeles Raider backfield coach Ray Willsey. "He kind of knocks you back, neutralizes your momentum."

"And he finds the end zone the way Gale Sayers used to," adds Chicago Bears' Coach Mike Ditka.

"Marcus is a carbon copy of Juice. I've never seen anybody so close to O. J.," injects Raiders' receiver Bob Chandler, who formerly played with Simpson at Buffalo. "I'm talking about everything—speech, mannerisms, the ease with which he deals with people, toughness, his whole approach to the game.

"The talent is his own, but it's uncanny the way he reminds me of O. J. When Marcus goes in for a touchdown, he drops the ball the same way O. J. used to do it—exactly," Chandler swears.

So far, we've described Allen as a blend of three superb talents. Let's not lose our sense of proportion.

It is true, though, that in Allen the University of Oklahoma coaches thought they saw a standout quarterback when the Sooners were recruiting him out of San Diego's Lincoln High.

Southern California's John Robinson, on the other hand, envisioned a defensive back in the mold of Ronnie Lott.

On another occasion, Robinson hinted that Allen might be another Dr. J. "Marcus is the kind of guy you'd want to take the last shot in a basketball game," said Robinson.

Allen's mother disagrees. She insists that her son's best sport is baseball. "He's another Brooks Robinson," she vows.

See, we've managed to capture the essence of the athlete, without resorting to hyperbole. All it took was a little restraint on the part of all of us.

Restraint was certainly in evidence on the part of some NFL talent scouts and coaches a year ago when Allen came walking out of USC, the Heisman Trophy casually clutched under one arm. They selected nine players, including running backs Darrin Nelson and Gerald Riggs out of the same Pac-10 conference, before it became the Raiders' turn to select in the first round of the draft.

"If we'd had the first pick in the draft, it would have been Marcus Allen," says Ron Wolf, Raider director of operations. "I don't think anybody would dispute that Kenneth Sims (Texas) was the best player in the draft, but for our football team the best was Marcus."

Nobody is disputing that claim going into the 1983 season. The Raiders returned to the playoff picture last fall with a running attack built around the former Trojan tailback. This year Los Angeles foes know what to expect. They might even know where to expect it. But none of the defensive scientists within the NFL have yet claimed to have discovered a cure for Brown-Juice-Sayers Disease with Brooks Robinson complications.

Allen is coming off a season that earned him recognition as an All-Pro and NFL Rookie of the Year as well. He was the only first-year player chosen to start in the Pro Bowl.

He led the Raiders in rushing and the NFL in scoring with 84 points last year. He was third in the league in total yards rushing with 697 (4.4 average) and ninth in the AFC in receiving. Yet Willsey says that spectators who watch Allen only when he has the football miss a great part of the game and can't begin to appreciate this man's ferocity and versatility.

Marcus Allen: All-Pro in his first season.

He once blocked for Charles White at USC and Allen hasn't forgotten how. He pursues fumbles with abandon. There were occasions when an opponent intercepted a Jim Plunkett pass and fans got to glimpse the kind of defensive back Allen might have been. "He is absolutely vicious on an interception," Willsey says. "I've been around long enough to watch the great Jim Brown, and you don't see a lot of running backs behaving like that."

"The one thing you absolutely cannot do is to make any mistakes on your first-round draft choice," Raider Coach Tom Flores frequently preaches. "You build your franchise around these players. We project them into the Pro Bowl two or three years down the line."

It didn't take nearly that long for Allen to pay dividends. The remarkable aspect of this situation is that the Raiders seemed to instantly realize what they had acquired with the 10th pick in the first round.

On the basis of their strong hunch, the Raiders sent their all-time leading rusher, Mark van Eeghen, to New England and moved halfback Kenny King, a Pro Bowler, to fullback.

Suddenly, the man in the middle in the Raiders' I-formation was the rookie from USC.

"Adjusting to the three-point stance used in the NFL definitely was a problem at first," Allen admits now. "As a tailback in the *I*, you are seven yards deep and can visualize the entire field. But in a three-point stance behind those huge linemen, you can't see as well.

"But I never doubted that I could do the job," Allen adds. "At the risk of sounding conceited and overconfident, I always felt that I would do well in the pros."

Allen's new teammates quickly began to reach the same conclusion. In the Raiders' first two games of the strike-shortened season, Allen rushed for 172 yards and caught eight passes for 103 yards. He scored three touchdowns. All doubters were convinced by the end of the season when they saw Allen return to his home town and gain 126 in 20 carries during an important win over the Chargers.

The crowd noise there was so intense that Allen was unable to hear Plunkett's audible when the Raiders had the ball at the San Diego 2-yard line. He mistakenly headed for the left side of the line with the ball, realized he had no blockers and reversed his direction.

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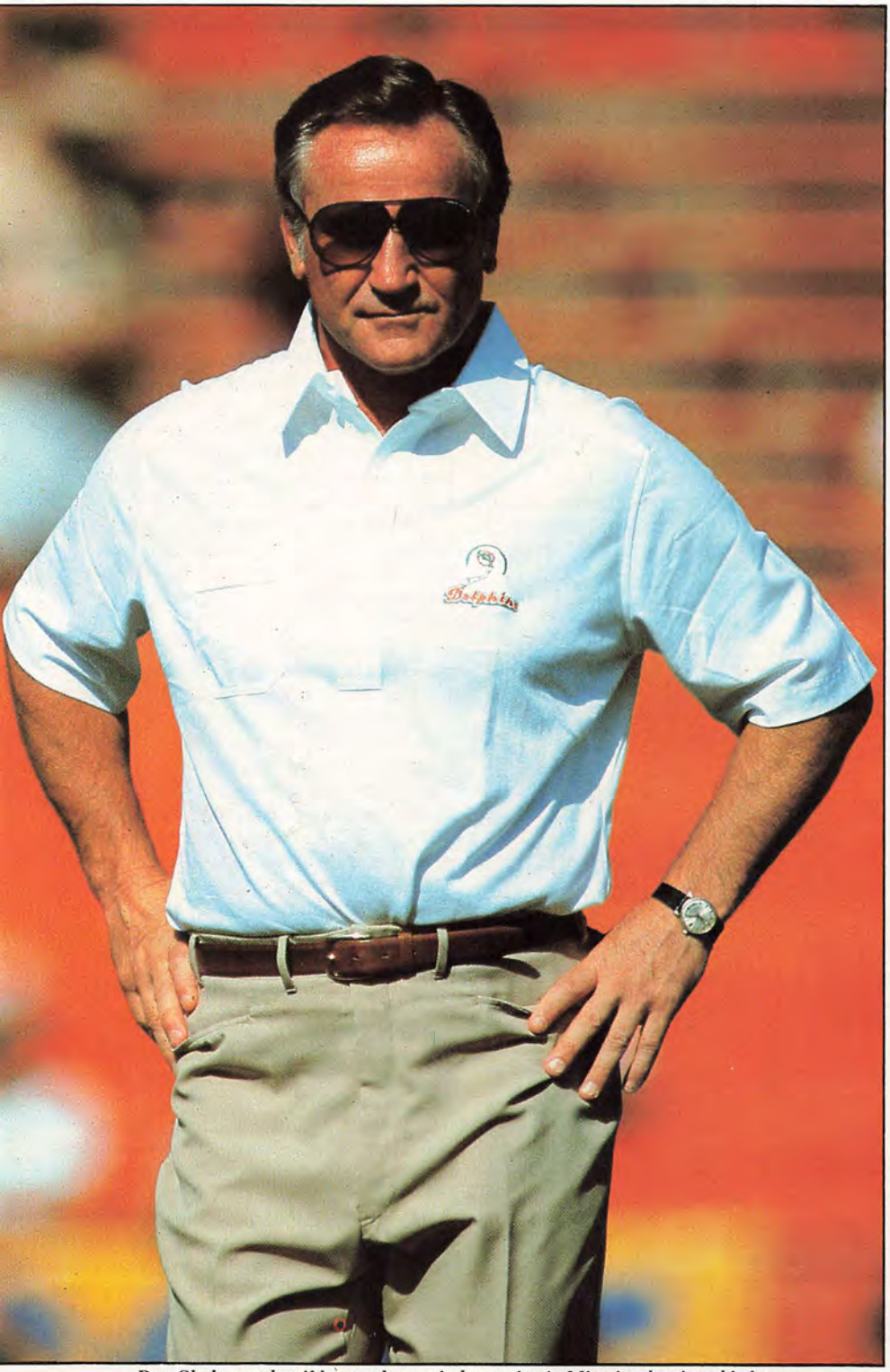
The Horns Of Shula's Dilemma

by Hubert Mizell



Don Shula wonders if he stands to gain by staying in Miami as he views his future.

Above all, Don Shula is faithful. For 25 years, faithful to his wife Dorothy. For a minimum of 11 seasons each, faithful to assistants Bill Arnsparger, John Sandusky, Tom Keane, Carl Taseff and Mo Scarry. Faithful to his children, even naming one among the four—24-year-old David—to the Miami Dolphin coaching staff. Faithful to players who produce for him. Faithful to the town to which his 1972 team gave pro football's only perfect season.

But, faithful as he is, Donald Francis Shula stares at a decision, now just half a year away, that at age 53 will shape the rest of his coaching life. For much of his 13 years in Miami, Shula has been at odds with Dolphin owner Joe Robbie. Theirs was a marriage made in heaven knows where. Mostly, they have lived apart. Robbie rules Dolphin business matters from a downtown Miami roost, Shula's football-only domain is a grassy corner of the Biscayne College campus in northern Dade County where Sunday's act is formed, then polished.

Robbie and Shula respect one another's strengths, but they mix as infrequently as cats and canaries. Four years ago, it was a semi-major upset when Shula signed for another hitch as Robbie's coach.

It was a factor, of course, that Shula had become worth $400,000 a year to the Dolphins. Only great NFL coaches and baseball outfielders who can hit, say .280, are worth that kind of money. But now, as Shula's gold-plated contract rumbles into its final months, the go-or-stay decision arises again. This time, Shula is more deeply into middle age. And if he yearns to flee Miami and Robbie, it seems to be now or never.

"I'll worry about that when the season's done," says Shula. "I'll stand back, take a deep breath and then take a long look at things." He hesitates to talk about his situation further. With the 1983 season yet to handle, Shula strains to keep non-football chatter at a minimum. The grand personal decision, plus the obvious howls and cries from Dolphin lovers who want to keep him forever, will be manifested soon enough.

A while ago, during the NFL strike of '82, Shula squeaked back in his leather office chair at Biscayne and allowed himself to briefly tap-dance into fantasy about his future. He spoke of perhaps wanting "an Al Davis kind of situation." He didn't mean taking a franchise and uprooting it, moving to a new locale, like Davis did. He didn't mean anything but having a heavy chunk of the franchise's financial action,

like Davis does with the LA-Oakland-Federal Court Raiders. And having the kind of absolute control Davis has with his franchise.

Chances are, unlike Davis, Shula will opt to continue laboring on NFL sidelines. "I still like what I do," he says. "You hear about this new 'burnout' syndrome, but I haven't experienced that. I like watching films, making plans for games, working with players and meeting with my coaching staff. There's still things to accomplish. How can I be bored? I'm proud of what's been done over 13 seasons in Miami and seven before that in Baltimore, but I'm not satisfied. I'm not ready to hang it up."

In 20 seasons since, at 33, he became the youngest man ever appointed as a head coach in the National Football League, Shula has a record of 216-86-6. His winning percentage of .711 is one of the best in NFL history. Still, it nags Shula that his Dolphins went eight years without winning a playoff game. And, although Miami made it to Super Bowl XVII, Shula was a man with a drained, washed-out face when the Washington Redskins roped and tied the Dolphins 27-17 last January in Pasadena.

"If anybody hates losing more than I do, I don't know him," he says, "but I do think it's sad that the losing team in the Super Bowl is branded as just that—a loser. I said it before we played the Redskins and I'm saying it afterward, it's a shame the second-best team in the NFL doesn't get more credit. Maybe it's the thing about being No. 1, which I'm all for. But, for many people, there's one NFL winner and 27 other teams that failed. That, I suppose, is life."

In 1972-73, nobody from San Diego to Foxboro doubted who was No. 1 in professional football. Shula's Dolphins won two straight Super Bowls. Those immortalized 17-0 sons of perfection beat Washington 14-7 in VII, and the 15-2 Miami team a year later destroyed the Minnesota Vikings 24-7 in VIII.

"As long as I live, there will be nothing like the perfect record," Shula says. "NFL people had figured it would never happen. That was a unique blend of people on the 1972 Dolphins. When we kept it going in '73 for a two-season record of 32-2, it was an experience that none of us ever truly expected to exceed."

Then, after the double dose of glory, Shula became better acquainted with adversity. The World Football League was a short-lived rival of the NFL, but it breathed long enough for the Memphis Grizzlies to steal away with three Dolphins—fullback Larry Csonka, wide receiver Paul Warfield and halfback Jim Kiick—that Shula could not replace.

It began a period of lesser achievement for the Dolphins. Not a skid. Not even a nasty slump. But it was a time when Shula was constantly frustrated by being unable to get a grip on the NFL's golden ring. Six times in eight seasons, Miami at least tied for first place in the AFC Eastern Division. But, always, there was a stumble before Shula could get them back to the NFL championship game. Finally, with one of his younger squads, Shula landed in the Super Bowl for his fifth time. But, for the third time, he went home with the silver medal, not the gold.

The youth of his current Dolphins is surely a factor as Shula decides whether to remain in Miami for good. His defense, known as the "Killer Bees" because six members have last names that begin with the letter B, seems solid for a long time. His offense needs work, which to Shula is the kind of challenge that keeps him from approaching "burnout."

Still, he's not the same at age 53 as he was at 43, when the Dolphins were 17-0. Or, at 33, when he was rookie head coach of the Colts. With such a portfolio of success, Shula feels sure of himself, prepared, by now, to meet any sort of situation or challenge. When he was younger, Shula was shorter of temper, more likely to scream and blow steam.

"I don't fly off the handle as much," he says, showing a smile that has become as famous as his sideline scowl. "Oh, I still have a boiling point, but I've grown enough to realize it usually hurts more than it helps."

A few seasons back, Shula extracted linebacker Steve Towle from a game and the young man from Kansas snarled at being benched. Shula growled and asked more respect from his soldiers as they came off the field. At that point, a highly valued old sergeant in his offensive line, Bob Kuechenberg, stood up to Shula and said, "OK, we'll show you more respect . . . if you will also treat us with respect as we come off the field."

Touché. OK. Done.

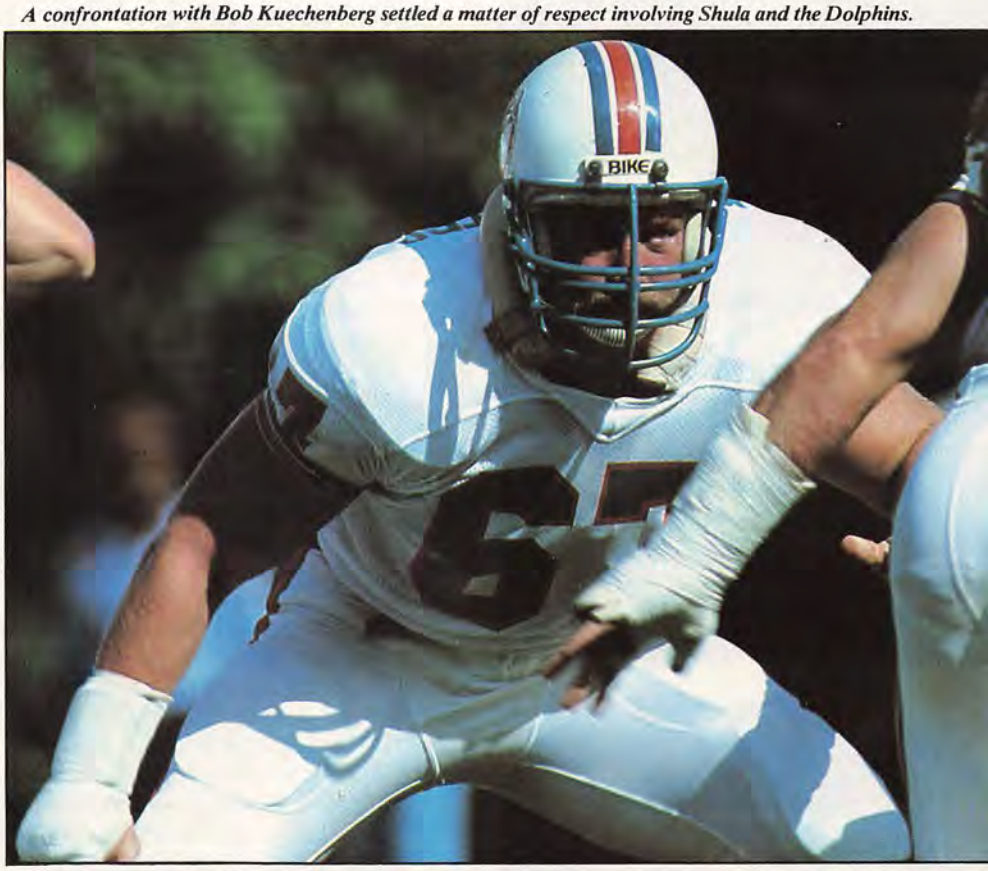
"You can say anything you want about (the quality of) our players," says Ed Newman, another veteran guard. "But Shula is the man who built the ship. He's the man responsible for whatever we do. If it's a two-minute drill that wins, it's his discipline that makes it go. If it's our defense, it's his genius that holds it together. I've never seen anyone remotely close to Shula for dominating and controlling an entire situation. He's more than just a master. He sustains that mastery year after year."

It would not be unfair to say Washington's Joe Gibbs outcoached Shula in Super Bowl XVII. Every morning, after he goes to mass, Shula thinks about that. It triggers him to work harder. He zeroes in on the problems that made Miami fall a whisper shy of winning it all.

"Having worked under Don Shula is the best thing I've got among my qualifications to be a head coach," says Howard Schnellenberger, who left the Dolphin staff to reconstruct

(continued on page 195)

A confrontation with Bob Kuechenberg settled a matter of respect involving Shula and the Dolphins.



DEFENSE

His number, as any fan of the Denver Broncos can tell you, is 53. It might well have been his belt size if last season's pro football strike had lasted much longer. Because the enforced vacation allowed Randy Gradishar the opportunity to indulge himself a little more frequently with dinner at a posh eatery across from the capitol run by a friend and gourmet named Pierre.

"When I came out of Champion, Ohio, I was strictly a meat-and-potatoes guy," says the Bronco Pro Bowl linebacker. Enrolling in the Home-Ec Department at Ohio State under a growling gourmand named Woody Hayes, Gradishar learned the art of skewering and rotisserie technique—broiling assorted Wildcats, Hawkeyes and an occasional Wolverine.

"The press was on us generally and on me particularly, and I deserved it. We certainly haven't done the job. But I don't think there is any question that we can turn this thing around."

"Then after we first moved to Denver, my wife and I joined a gourmet club. That's how I met Pierre. He taught me how to enjoy continental foods and wines."

Pierre also taught Gradishar that Cotelettes de Volaille Kiev was not a placekicker from Russia.

Placekickers, or quarterbacks, for that matter, are seldom mentioned in Gradishar's presence at his favorite restaurant. Football is only occasionally brought up over espresso, although Pierre is a rabid Bronco fan.

And the one word that is *never* mentioned is "strike." Just the word makes Randy's stomach growl like a bagpipe in a marching band.

Gradishar made his NFL debut in 1974 and, along with other rookies in the league, had to cross Players Association picket lines to play in the first exhibition game. He would have been pained by the experience even if he had not suffered an Achilles tendon injury.

Last year Gradishar frequently expressed opposition to the lengthy midseason strike. Eventually he paid his own way back to New York City so he could sit down with the negotiating team and express his minority views.

It should have been obvious in advance of the labor dispute that Gradishar would question any explanation given for an interruption of the Broncos' season. After all, he has now started in a team-high 129 consecutive games and once jumped off an operating table when given the opportunity for extra action.

In his second season with the Broncos, Gradishar sustained shoulder injuries, and after the final game he climbed up on the white sheet for some repairs. He was about to receive his preoperative shot when a call came through to the hospital asking him if he'd like to play in the Pro Bowl in the absence of the injured Willie Lanier of Kansas City.

"The doctor said I wouldn't hurt it any more by playing, so I got up, dressed and went to New Orleans, and I played," Gradishar recalled later. "And I wound up pulling my hamstring."

He could probably sell the plot to General Hospital. What he'd like to do would be to get rid of the scenario the Denver football team enacted during the 1982 campaign. It drew a few bad reviews in the newspaper and Coach Dan Reeves didn't disagree with the critics.

"Certainly there was a great deal of disappointment and some resentment, too, because of the strike and the fact that we didn't play very well," Reeves concedes. "The press was on us generally and on me particularly, and I deserved it. We certainly haven't done the job. But I don't think there is any question that we can turn this thing around."

For starters, the Broncos would like to approach or surpass their 10-6 record and first-place tie in the AFC West achieved in 1981, Reeves' first year as Denver coach. Last year the record sagged to 2-7, and the reversal was reflected in the Broncos' turnover ratio and hospital bill.

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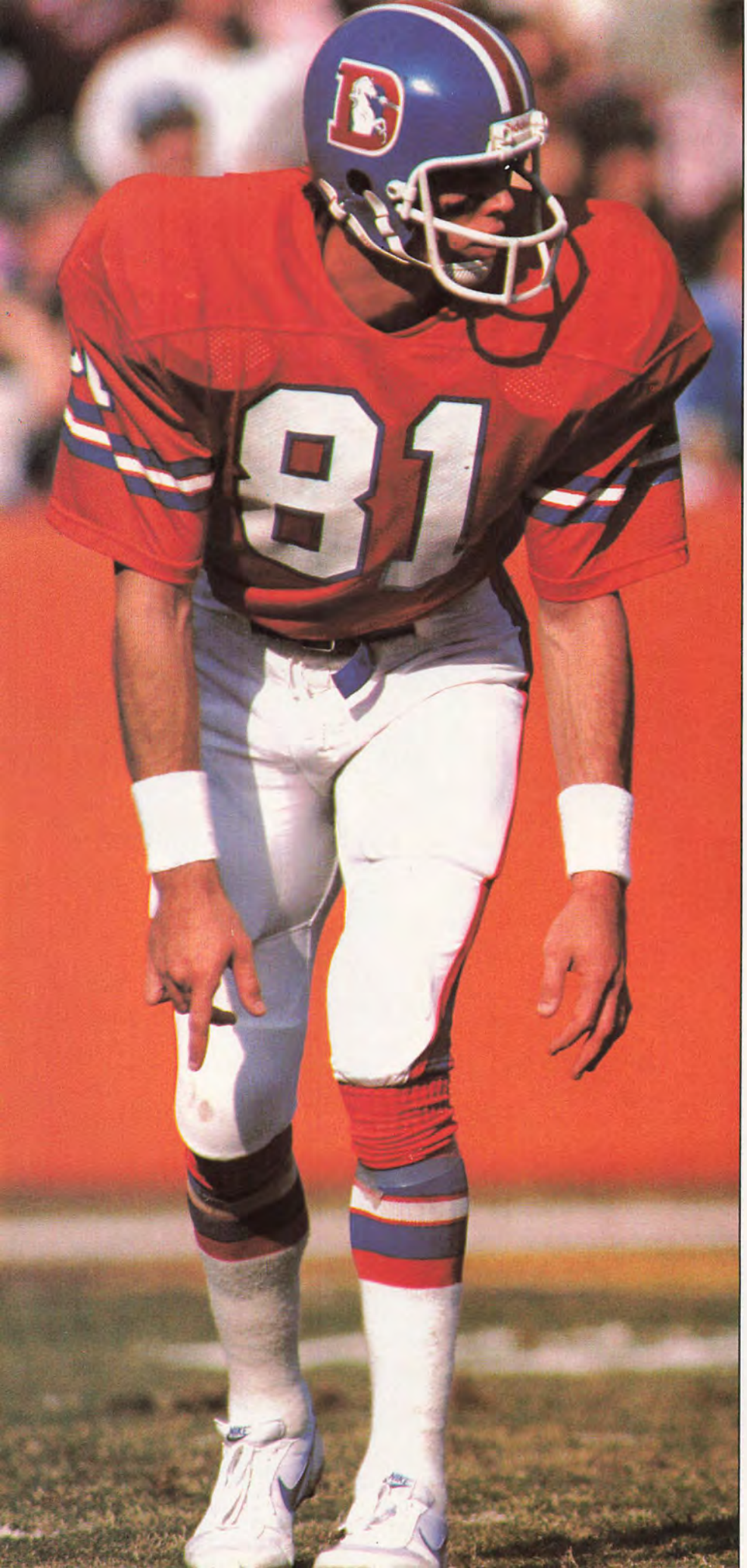
Moving mountains of flesh, linebacker Randy Gradishar has led the Broncos in tackles eight straight years.



Steve Watson is a frequent target of Bronco quarterbacks. He had 36 catches in 1982.

(Denver continued)

The Broncos yielded the ball to opponents on 36 occasions via turnovers, which led to 116 points on the wrong side of the scoreboard. Denver foes were guilty of only half that many turnovers for the season.

Certainly the strike disrupted Reeves' Grand Plan, but he shared this liability with all other NFL coaches. Most of his rivals did not, however, have to contend with some of his other problems. Nowhere was there more turmoil than in the defensive backfield.

Pro Bowler Billy Thompson retired and was replaced at strong safety by Dennis Smith, but the latter was knocked out by injury in the seventh game. Free safety Steve Foley broke his arm in the first game of the season, his replacement Mike Harden went out with a knee injury and Steve Trimble had to finish out the year at that position. The death of defensive backfield coach Richie McCabe to cancer was both tragic and traumatic on the staff and the players.

Through it all, though, Reeves could glimpse positive signs.

"I was pleasantly surprised with the play of Ken Lanier at right tackle because it was his first year starting," Reeves begins. "The two rookie running backs, Sammy Winder (from Southern Mississippi) and Gerald Willhite (San Jose State), played well. It's just unfortunate they missed eight weeks because of the strike. They could be much better football players right now."

Willhite was 15th among AFC runners with 347 yards, second-year man Rick Parros had 277 and Winder finished with 259. Willhite had a five-yard average per carry.

If NFL statisticians also scored on degree of difficulty, they would have granted bonus points to Willhite when he followed his first poststrike touchdown run against Seattle with a backward flip in the end zone, an act that used to wow 'em back in San Jose.

Despite the losing record, three Broncos were picked for last winter's Pro Bowl game in Honolulu. Luke Prestridge led all NFL punters with a 45-yard average, and Rick Upchurch led punt returners with a 16.1-yard average. The latter's 78-yard touchdown run against Kansas City was his eighth scoring runback tying him in the record book with Jack Christiansen, an NFL assistant coach who played his college ball just a few miles down the highway at Colorado State.

Linebacker Tom Jackson again was voted the team's inspirational leader, while center Bill Bryan and cornerback Louis Wright were voted the offensive and defensive MVPs, respectively.

Craig Morton literally had to remove himself from a hospital outpatient ward to announce that he was retiring after 18 years of meritorious service with Dallas, the New York Giants and Denver. That put the game ball into the hands of Steve DeBerg, who ranked

ELWAY'S A BRONCO

John Elway, Stanford's All-America quarterback rated by some as the best college passer of all time, will play for Denver after being picked by Baltimore as the No. 1 player in the draft.

Elway refused to enter into negotiations with the Colts. A week after the draft he was traded to the Broncos for offensive tackle Chris Hinton, quarterback Mark Herrmann and Denver's No. 1 pick in the 1984 draft. Hinton of Northwestern was the Broncos' first-round draft choice this year.

Elway's contract figures were not released, but it was estimated that he signed a five-year pact worth $4 to $5 million.

eighth among AFC passers in 1982 with a 67.2 efficiency rating. His favorite receivers were Parros and Steve Watson with 37 and 36 catches, respectively.

The one player about whom Reeves has no qualifications is Gradishar, "who just had a super year, leading our football team in tackles . . . again (eighth straight season). He is a great leader on and off the field."

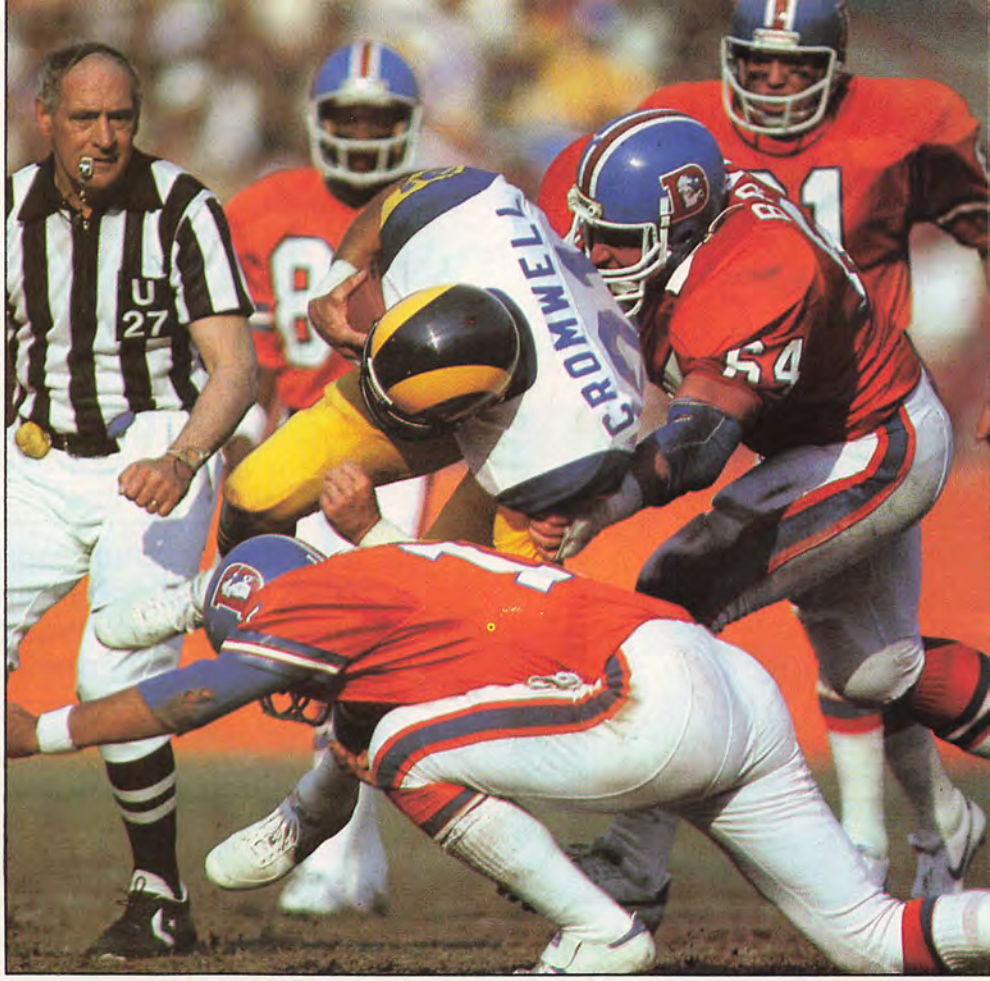
Gradishar was drafted by the Broncos while John Ralston was coach. He has also toiled under the taciturn Red Miller and under Reeves, who might be described in background and makeup as a young Tom Landry.

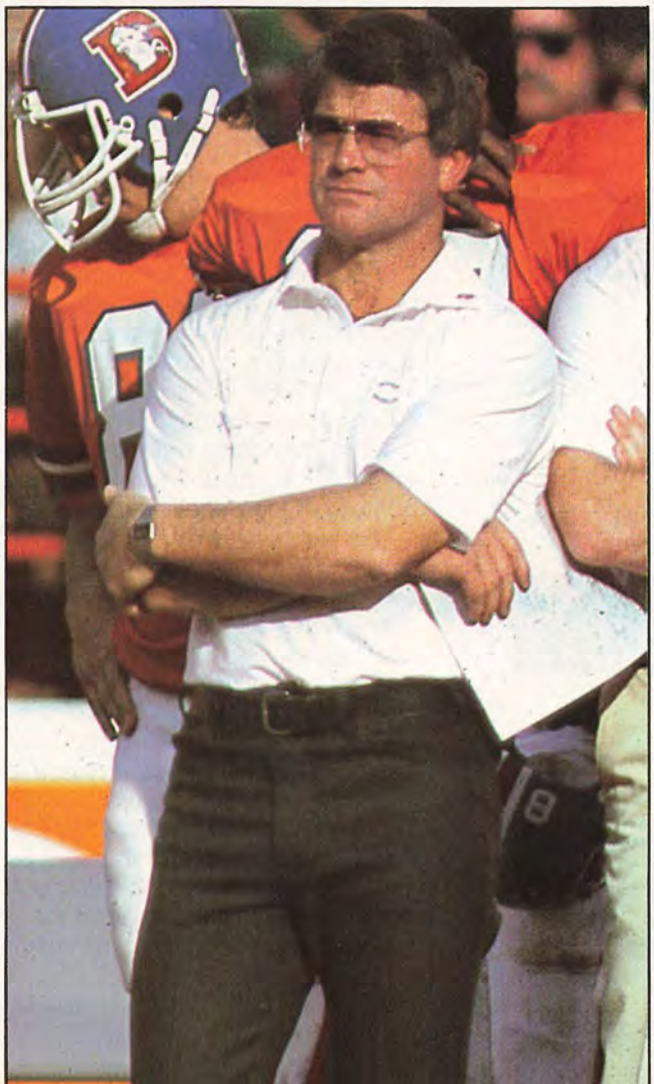
"I'm not being critical of Coach Ralston when I admit that I'm not really motivated by coaches who run up and down the sideline yelling and hitting you on the butt," says Gradishar. "I'm motivated by having my mistakes pointed out to me."

Reeves frequently and loudly praises his perennial Pro Bowler, and Woody Hayes still maintains that Gradishar is the finest linebacker he ever coached at Ohio State.

Maybe only Pierre is aware of Gradishar's real failing. As a cook, Randy still couldn't prepare a bowl of soup if he shared his whirlpool bath with six chickens.

END





Center Bill Bryan (64), getting in extra duty as a tackler after an interception by Nolan Cromwell of the Rams, was the offensive MVP for Dan Reeves' (left) Broncos.

JETS

Wherever they were, the New York Jets all but cheered when they learned that Joe Walton would be head coach, replacing Walt Michaels who resigned. The offense, which Walton coached, was elated.

"No one was more deserving," says quarterback Richard Todd. "He gets the best out of you. He requires discipline but he makes it fun. In some of those bad years, some of us didn't enjoy what we were doing. The fun had gone for me but Joe helped put it back in the game."

Says center Joe Fields: "He brought stability to our offense. He has the knack of patting you on the back when you need it. He seems to know who to do it to and who not to. I've always admired that."

"I probably spent more time with Joe looking at film and talking strategy than I spent with my own family. He was great for me, helped turn my career around really."

Many have admired Joe Walton, from his playing days as an All-American at Pittsburgh. He was a second-round draft choice of the Redskins in 1957. Four years later he was traded to the New York Giants and joined one of the great NFL teams. With Walton playing tight end, the Giants won three straight Eastern championships. Quarterback Y.A. Tittle, who threw to Walton between 1961-63, called him the best third-down receiver in football.

"I was really too small for tight end," Walton will tell you now. (He was 5-10 and 185 pounds.) "But we had a lot of guys then who weren't monsters—Frank Gifford, Kyle Rote, Joe Morrison. They used to joke about me."

"Joe got more mileage out of his body than anyone," Gifford once said. "He wasn't fast. He wasn't tall. But he was a thinker. He worked hard. He had to.

"As small as Joe was, he blocked linebackers and defensive ends. He had the initial charge. He'd come out like a bullet.

"I worked on the right side as a flanker and he was the tight end. We had this play, 7-out-and-down. We'd run it when we got to the 30-yard line and they started playing us tight. Joe would break to the outside and I'd go down and turn in and I'd usually pick (screen) off his man, like a basketball play. We destroyed the Cowboys with it. After the 1962 season, they prohibited contact like that. I always suspected Tex Schramm (now Dallas president) got them to pass the pick rule."

In a seven-year pro career, Walton caught 178 passes for 2,623 yards and 28 touchdowns. When he retired, he scouted for the Giants while working in private business. Later, he coached their farm team—the Westchester Bulls—for several years. In 1969, Walton's old teammate, Alex Webster, then head coach of the Giants, asked Walton to join him as backfield coach.

In 1974, Walton was hired by George Allen of the Redskins to coach the offensive backfield. Walton began to work with a kid quarterback who had just come from the Canadian League, Joe Theismann.

"He taught me things I never dreamed possible," says Theismann. "I probably spent more time with Joe looking at film and talking strategy than I spent with my own family. He was great for me, helped turn my career around really. He's patient but he's also got a temper. Oh yeah, I heard about it when I messed up, but he did it in a positive way.

"That's his best quality. He'll build you right back up. He helped my confidence. Not that I've ever lacked confidence. But he made me a much better quarterback. He's done the same for Richard Todd. He's made him a poised, confident quarterback. Richard will tell you the same thing."

He did.

"When I came to the Jets, I had a great deal of confidence, but then I lost it," says Todd. "Joe came in and stabilized both me and the offense."

Walton's appointment to replace Michaels, who quit the team in a surprise move three weeks after the Jets lost to the Dolphins in the AFC championship game, also has elicited praise from Jet defensive players.

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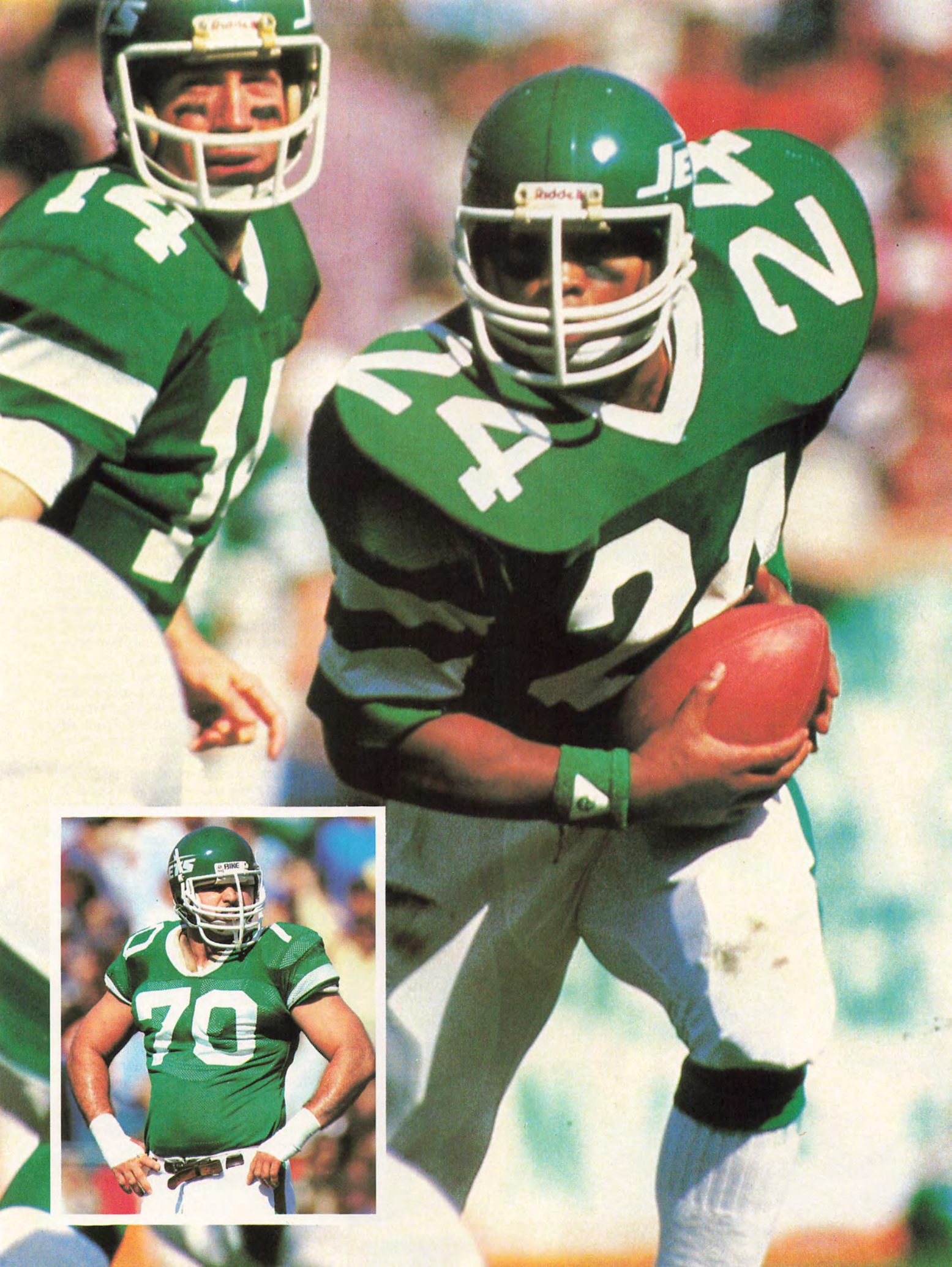
Freeman McNeil, helped by such blocking as Stan Waldemore provided, won the NFL rushing title last year.


JETS
70

Richard Todd is glad to throw in with Joe Walton, knowing the coach will get the best out of him.

(Jets continued)

"He's been the difference on this team," says strong safety Ken Schroy.

"Going into the playoffs," says tackle Marty Lyons, "Joe came over to Joe Klecko and me and said, 'I know you guys are hurt but you mean a lot to this team. You're needed.' That's all it took for us to go out and play hurt. Joe has a relationship with everyone on the team, defense as well as offense. We couldn't have a finer replacement as a head coach."

Walton was being considered for three other head coaching jobs shortly after the Jet season ended in the muck of Miami's Orange Bowl Stadium.

In fact, he was waiting for the Los Angeles Rams to get back to him when he got a call from Jet President Jim Kensil, saying he wanted to meet with him. The next day, they talked for eight hours. When Walton left the team's Madison Avenue headquarters, he had the one job he hadn't really thought he'd get. He was the head coach of the Jets.

The team will be among the 1983 favorites for the Super Bowl, and Jet fans haven't tasted a championship season since Joe Namath beat the Baltimore Colts in Super Bowl III in 1969. It's a pressure-filled job.

The Jets came oh, so close in 1982. After a somewhat hit-and-miss regular season that saw them finish 6–3, they came on strong in the playoffs, easily knocking off defending AFC titlist Cincinnati in the first round, then eliminating the Los Angeles Raiders.

Both games were on the road. So was the AFC championship game. It was played on a field made muddy by a week-long downpour in south Florida. The Orange Bowl did not own a tarpaulin, and by the time the teams took the field, puddles were everywhere.

The Jets protested vociferously before the game, but there was nothing they could do about a situation clearly to their disadvantage. New York relied on speedy wide receivers Wesley Walker and Lam Jones, and slashing running back Freeman McNeil to generate the offense. All three were slowed to a crawl on the swampy field.

The Jets lost that day. Dolphin linebacker A.J. Duhe had a record three interceptions and Todd was unable to shake his favorite targets loose. Walker caught only one pass and McNeil was held to 46 yards.

All-Pro defensive end Mark Gastineau said in the locker room afterward, "This game is gonna stick in our minds for a long time. The only thing we can do is build on it for next year. I don't ever want to feel this way again."

There is a good chance he may not have to.

Walker and Jones are considered the two fastest receivers in the NFL. Walker caught 39 passes last year for 620 yards and six touchdowns. Jones had only 18 receptions but averaged 16 yards a catch.

Still, says Walton, the Jets are not about to become a go-deep-every-time football team.

"With Lam especially, there is a danger in trying to go too long too often," Walton says. "In his first year, the types of passes being thrown to him bothered him a little, the crossing patterns. Last year, I emphasized passes where he could come back to the ball—turn-ins and quick screens.

"We're expected to play bombs-away football because of the rules and the kinds of receivers we've got. But there's a danger in that. It may be exciting, but it might not be the complete way to win. The success of the Chargers and the Steelers wide receivers has brought about a belief that all these teams do is throw bombs. They don't. Many of those plays are short passes that turn into big gains because of the athletic ability of the people they have."

Walton has another potent weapon in All-Pro McNeil, his third-year tailback who gained 786 yards on 151 carries last season to lead the NFL in rushing. McNeil is also a good receiver coming out of the backfield, enhancing his value. Walton has always liked to throw to his running backs.

It's a team that is likely to challenge for AFC supremacy with a coach who just might win a Super Bowl in his rookie year.

Todd had another fine season in 1982. He ranked third among AFC quarterbacks and is coming into his own as one of the league's elite. He gets excellent protection from an offensive line that has All-Pro tackle Marvin Powell and All-Pro Fields in front of him.

The offense finished third in the conference, which was the same ranking achieved by a defense that was troubled by injuries, particularly along the front four.

The unit known as the New York Sack Exchange had an off year. It was credited with only 20 sacks in the regular season. Klecko missed most of the season with a knee injury. Lyons and Abdul Salaam were bothered by groin and thigh injuries. Jet defenders turned it on in the playoffs, though.

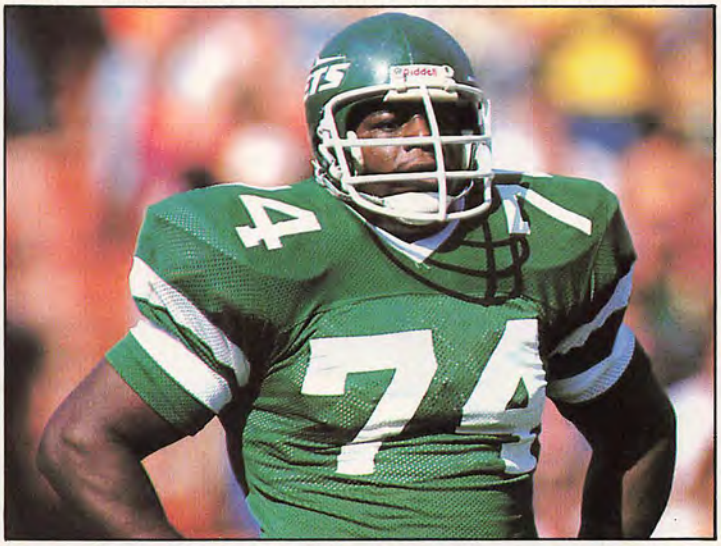
Their linebackers—particularly Greg Buttle and Lance Mehl—are quite physical, and the secondary has matured.

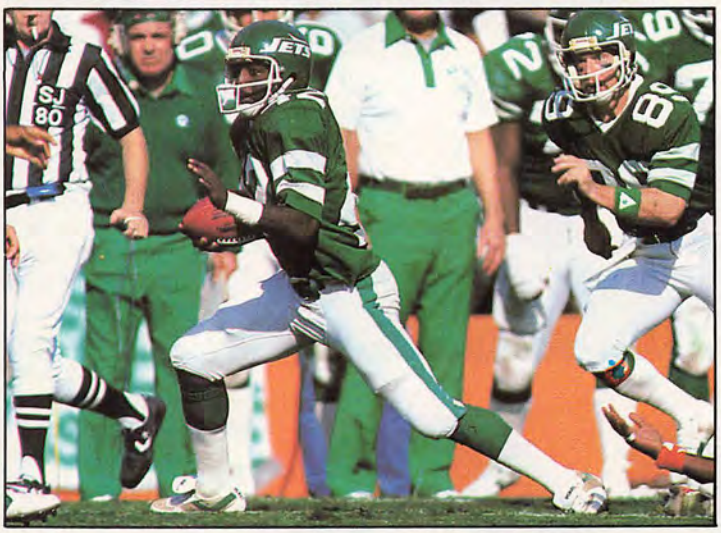
The Jets have been building over the last half dozen years, using the draft with great success.

The result is that the Jets are young, strong and talented. It's a team that is likely to challenge for AFC supremacy with a coach who just might win a Super Bowl in his rookie year.

END

Mark Gastineau (99) and Abdul Salaam (74): charter members of the New York Sack Exchange. *Bruce Harper (42) runs, catches, returns punts and kickoffs.*





FAIL SAFE

From the time he was coaching at Ellwood City (Pa.) High School through his college days at Wake Forest and Kentucky and during his head coaching stints with the Los Angeles Rams and Buffalo Bills, nobody ever doubted that Chuck Knox was smart enough to come in out of the rain.

True, there was a time when his chosen profession paid him as little as $3,100 a year, and he had to take a part-time job in an ice plant. When he arrived in Buffalo in 1978, there were those who told him he was making only a parallel move—weatherwise—from the ice plant.

But Knox was just biding his time.

Late last January, he came in out of the rain, snow, sleet, the 35-mile an hour winter breezes and found shelter under a giant concrete mushroom in Seattle called the Kingdome. As of this fall, it'll be known as Fort Knox. And the new head coach of the Seahawks is hoping to heat up the joint in a hurry.

"You have to have control over the acquisition of talent or your fate is almost entirely out of your hands. You have to establish command."

Based on his record, it's more than a hope. Knox had five straight divisional championship teams in Los Angeles, and in his third year after taking over a 3-11 team from Jim Ringo, he won a division title for the Bills.

"Obviously, no one in this business is a miracle worker," Knox admits. "We have not set any timetable on when we expect to win this or win that, but what we have set is a timetable on when we will be competitive. We expect to turn this program around. We didn't come all the way out here to fail."

Failure to advance the Seahawks into a competitive position in the AFC West after more than six seasons cost Jack Patera his job. He was removed after two losing games last year during the strike called by the NFL Players Association. Mike McCormack, director of football operations, finished out the season as interim coach, winning four of seven games. There was some support developing for McCormack as the permanent coach, until he removed his name from consideration and accepted the dual positions of president and general manager of the team.

McCormack played pro football under Paul Brown at Cleveland. He served on coaching staffs headed by Vince Lombardi and George Allen before two head-coaching jobs at Philadelphia and Baltimore.

While coaching the Seahawks last season, McCormack decided the team desperately needed a teacher. "We wanted a coach who could get down in the dirt and tell an offensive lineman, 'Look, this is what you've got to do,' " he says. "We also needed somebody with the stature to acquire top-flight assistants. You can have the best teacher in the world, but if he has to coach his coaches, then he's going to be spending his time in the wrong area."

Bemoaning the brief tenure of the average NFL coach, Knox says, "You have to have control over the acquisition of talent or your fate is almost entirely out of your hands. You have to establish command." And he had that kind of authority, and a title to go with it, for the first couple of years at Buffalo. It is a measure of his regard for McCormack that Knox would work under a man who only recently retired from the coaching ranks himself.

Knox was 40 before he got his first head-coaching job with the Rams. The late Carroll Rosenbloom, owner of the Rams, brought him out to Los Angeles on three different occasions before deciding to hire him off the staff of the Detroit Lions.

After Knox won his first four division titles at Los Angeles, he was wooed by the owner of the Lions, William Clay Ford. Rosenbloom said he would be willing to release Knox from his contract. But he asked the Lions for value returned.

Rosenbloom presented Ford with the names of 22 players on the Detroit roster at that time. He said he would accept any 12 men off that list in return for Knox.

Ford decided to go shopping in the store down the street.

Knox eventually began to fidget under the scrutiny of his employers in Los

(continued)

Pro Bowler Kenny Easley heads the Seahawk secondary that allowed only four touchdown passes in 1982, tops in the NFL.

(Seattle continued)

Angeles, Rosenbloom and General Manager Don Klosterman. In one well-publicized incident, they "suggested" that Knox start rookie Pat Haden at quarterback instead of James Harris.

Knox bears a striking resemblance to former Secretary of State Alexander Haig. Knox resigned after five successful seasons in L.A. and shuffled off to Buffalo, where an enormous rebuilding project had to be undertaken.

He thinks the Seahawks are farther advanced than the team he inherited at Buffalo, and the statistics tend to bear him out. Although Patera developed defensive lines nicknamed The Fearsome Foursome and The Purple People Eaters as an assistant coach at Los Angeles and Minnesota, his early teams in Seattle played defense like Gladys Knight and the Pips.

Last season, however, Seattle's defensive unit finished fifth in the entire league in scoring defense. The most significant additions were those of rookies Jeff Bryant at defensive end and Bruce Scholtz at linebacker, first- and second-round draft picks. The other end, Jacob Green, showed immense improvement, and when Michael Jackson was shifted to middle linebacker, he led the defense with 64 tackles. The only rap against Jackson is his sometimes unbridled enthusiasm. He was so "enthusiastic" in a couple of instances late in the year that he ended the campaign on the bench, relegated there by a rare one-game suspension ordered by NFL Commissioner Pete Rozelle.

QB Jim Zorn: 7.5 yards per carry in '82.

But the Seahawks' defensive backfield was the pride of the team. Cornerbacks Dave Brown and Keith Simpson and safeties Kenny Easley and John Harris allowed only four touchdown passes all season, best in the NFL. Easley represented Seattle in the Pro Bowl. McCormack whistled his praise for Simpson, arguing that no cornerback in the league hits any harder.

The kicking of rookie Norm Johnson allowed Seattle the second-best coverage ever allowed in the league. Kickoff returns against Seattle averaged 14.9 yards.

However, the Seattle offense, which had provided the Seahawks with a degree of

Out of the backfield, Sherman Smith makes a one-handed catch against the Raiders, one of his 19 receptions last season.

credibility during struggling expansion years, fell off badly in 1982 and marked one of Knox's first areas of concern. Seattle scored 127 points last season. Only Baltimore with 113 was less productive.

Thus, it was no surprise when Seattle chose Curt Warner, Penn State's All-America running back in the first round of the draft (third player picked). The Seahawks' third selection was another running back, Reginald Gipson of Alabama A&M.

Seattle running backs Sherman Smith and Theotis Brown failed to break a single long gainer. Between them, they averaged only three yards per carry. Dan Doornink was most productive of the lot with a four-yard average.

Knox was the second NFL coach, after Tom Landry at Dallas, to utilize the shotgun offense to any degree.

Steve Largent led the receivers as he has done since the franchise's first year. He had 34 catches for 493 yards. Last year Roger Carr arrived from Baltimore at the end of the exhibition season, and his adjustment to the Seattle offense was further hampered by the lengthy strike.

Knox was the second NFL coach, after Tom Landry at Dallas, to utilize the shotgun offense to any degree. He's brought the weapon to Seattle.

But which quarterback will be pulling the trigger? Jim Zorn was Seattle's most efficient runner last year. But he was benched in favor of Dave Krieg at the start of the regular season by Patera. When McCormack took over the team, Krieg was nursing an injury. Zorn led the Seahawks to three victories in the team's first four games after the strike. But in the season finale against Denver, Krieg was summoned to lead a late charge that beat the Broncos.

"Both can throw the ball a long ways," says Knox. He arrived in Seattle with more than a passing knowledge of Zorn's history with the Seahawks.

A free-agent rookie with the Dallas Cowboys, Zorn had been the last player cut by Landry. Knox was interested in acquiring the kid out of Cal Poly-Pomona and was later accused of trying to hide Zorn in the Los Angeles camp. Dick Mansperger, Seattle's director of player personnel, knew that Zorn was still a free agent and got Seattle to sign him.

Well, Knox has him on his roster now. And NFL rivals of the Seahawks are wondering how he'll use him.

Chances are Knox will have Zorn throwing long, at least when the air conditioning in the Kingdome is at his back.

END

Steve Largent (80), who has led the Seahawks in receiving seven straight seasons, figures heavily in the plans of new Coach Chuck Knox.

PITTSBURGH

The years slip by and the number of Pittsburgh Steelers who played in all four Super Bowl championships dwindles. After last season, the third since the Steelers' fourth title in Super Bowl XIV, wide receiver Lynn Swann and outside linebacker Jack Ham retired, leaving only nine veterans still active from the dynasty years in the Seventies.

For all the Steelers, new and old, last season ended with an agonizing 31-28 loss to the San Diego Chargers in the AFC playoffs. It was agonizing because the Steelers were on an offensive roll, having scored 37 points against the New England Patriots and 37 more against the Cleveland Browns in their final regular-season games. They blew it after leading the Chargers by 11 points entering the final period. First, quarterback Terry Bradshaw threw a cross-field pass that was intercepted and turned into a touchdown. Then, punter John Goodman got off a wobbly 20-yarder and the Chargers jumped on that for the winning points.

"For the team to improve, everyone, individually, must improve. It is not a matter of better play from the younger players or the veterans but from everyone."

Still, it was a year in which Pittsburgh proved it could score with a ball-control offense and play solid 3-4 defense. At the end of the regular season, the Steelers were 6-3. They ranked fourth among AFC offenses with an average of 330 yards per game. They finished seventh in total defense, but first in the NFL against the rush (club record 84.7 yards a game).

"I think we took some important strides," says Coach Chuck Noll (137-80-1 career record). "We made quite a few changes last season, and our players and coaches seemed to adjust well to them. For the team to improve, everyone, individually, must improve. It is not a matter of better play from the younger players or the veterans but from everyone. On this team, we think there are unusual opportunities, whether it be by retirement or by competition, for a position."

Bradshaw enters his 14th season as still one of the NFL's best quarterbacks. Operating a ball-control offense, he passed for only 1,768 yards last year, but threw 17 touchdown passes, an AFC high. Bradshaw scrambles less (only eight times last year) and throws fewer bombs (his 7.37 average gain per pass was sixth in the AFC) but still has a great feel for Noll's offense and the knack for making the big completion.

Swann retired after nine years with 336 catches and 51 touchdowns. But replacement Jim Smith has been ready to play flanker for three years and has averaged 18.9 yards in his career. The other wide receiver, John Stallworth, is playing at an All-Pro level (27 catches, 441 yards, 7 touchdowns last season).

How efficiently Bradshaw's pass offense functions may depend on whether Walter Abercrombie, a spectacular runner until he suffered a knee injury in pre-season, can regain his 1982 training camp form. With Abercrombie hitting outside and 12-year vet Franco Harris supplying the tough inside yards, the Steelers could be a formidable rushing team. Harris again led the Steelers with 604 yards on weakside flips, traps and straight pop plays. In his career, the amazing Harris has gained 10,943 yards, third only to Jim Brown (12,312) and O.J. Simpson (11,236).

"We get caught up in all of this new stuff and we tend to forget the running game," Harris said late last season. "But we're always more effective when we're balanced. When I think of the Pittsburgh Steelers, I think of mixing the run with the pass and beating people off the line of scrimmage."

Mention the Steelers, too, and the defensive purists quickly think of the Steel Curtain, that remarkable unit from which only cornerback Mel Blount, linebacker Jack Lambert, strong safety Donnie Shell and linebacker Loren Toews remain. In those great Super Bowl years, they were a classic 4-3 unit, with Lambert and Ham stringing out the wide plays and Mean Joe Greene playing that odd-angle center-guard gap, dominating in the trenches. Now Ham has joined Greene in retirement

(continued)

A man who could wear Super Bowl rings on four fingers; veteran Jack Lambert of Pittsburgh's Steel Curtain.

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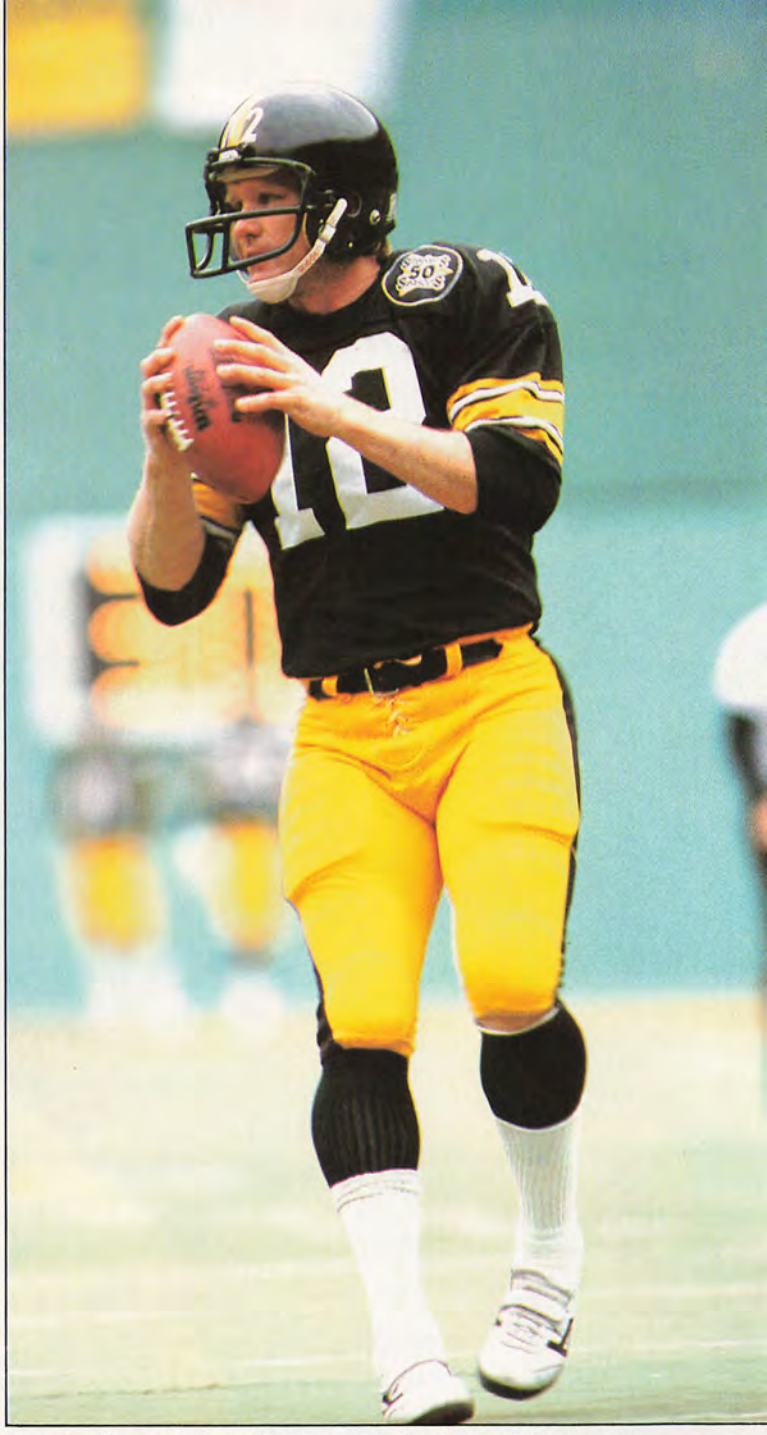

Years of throwing to receivers like Bennie Cunningham have built an array of imposing figures for Terry Bradshaw, including 210 touchdown passes.

(Pittsburgh continued)

to be replaced by either Mike Merriweather, a terrific hitter, or Bryan Hinkle, an injury-plagued two-year man who can fly in the open field. Steady Robin Cole (outside) and Toews (inside) will start on the right side of the Steelers' 3-4. Cole moves in as a down lineman when Pittsburgh goes 4-3 on passing downs.

"I'm enthused about next year after what we accomplished in 1982," says Lambert, who made the Pro Bowl for the eighth straight year. "We had a lot of adjustments to make with the 3-4 and quite a few new players who had to find out about pro football. We had a good season and made the playoffs, but I don't think any of us were satisfied."

Adds Woody Widenhofer, the defensive coordinator: "Before the 1982 season, we didn't realize we had a chance to be as good as we were. We played pretty well in preseason, won all of those games, and then got better in the early part of the season. We set goals for the defense before the season. We wanted to learn more about the 3-4 defense and make it work at the same time. Included in our goals were improving against the run, putting more pressure on the quarterback and limiting our points allowed. We wanted to hold teams to within 13 points."

The Steelers responded by setting a club record (allowing only 84.7 yards rushing per game) and finishing second to the Los Angeles Raiders in sacks with 34.

"I'm looking forward to this year because I think the defense will get better," says Widenhofer. "The players believe in the scheme. Everyone is still learning what we are capable of. We would like to get more of a pass rush from the line. Last year, more than half of our sacks came from linebackers and backs."

As Noll says, the opportunity for young prospects to move up is great. So here are some of the new names that Steeler fans might make into household names before the '83 season is over:

Abercrombie: He rushed for only 100 yards after recovering from knee problems but was sensational in preseason on power sweeps and cutbacks.

Merriweather: Here's an extremely quick linebacker who is a punishing tackler in the mold of other great Steeler linebackers. Probably will replace Ham at left outside spot.

John Goodman: A starter at strong-side end, he jammed up everything that came his way and refused to be suckered inside on misdirection stuff. A coming star.

Gary Dunn: Drafted as a 4-3 tackle, he was moved to nosetackle when the Steelers shifted to a 3-4 alignment. The switch worked and he gave the Steelers a bonus—six sacks.

"I don't think Franco relates to retirement or getting older. . . . He leads a life that is conducive to a long career."

Dwayne Woodruff: This kid was picked on early in the season as the new left corner but scuffled back and had five interceptions, then was named the club's MVP by his teammates.

Rick Woods: A No. 4 pick in the 1982 draft, Woods has great speed that could carry him past Ron Johnson as the starting free safety.

"We had a great draft in '82," says Lambert. "We've got some kids who really want to play." He couldn't help singling out Woods, who hit anything that moved last year.

"Going to be a heckuva player," says Lambert. "When I got to training camp, all the receivers already hated him because he had been knocking the hell out of them."

Says Woods, "You've got to be mean in this league to play this game."

Lambert still hasn't been sold on the advantages of the 3-4. "In our old 4-3," he grumbles, "nobody could run on us. Nobody. Now our philosophy is, they're going to throw, so make them do it quick."

Whatever the Steeler style, Noll's 15th team is expected to be one of the AFC's best, maybe even *the* best.

It will be a special season for Bradshaw and Harris. Entering the 1983 season, Bradshaw ranks 11th in career passes attempted (3,893), 12th in total yards (27,912), 15th in completions (2,020) and ninth in touchdown passes (210). Harris is the third-leading all-time rusher with 2,602 attempts for 10,943 yards, a 4.2-yard average, and 86 touchdowns.

"We still have a good nucleus from '74," says Harris. "But in a couple of years, you'll see a whole new team." Harris realizes that he isn't going to touch the ball on handoffs as often as he did in the '70s, and he has worked hard on his pass-receiving skills.

"The Steelers deciding to throw more has nothing to do with Franco being less effective," says Dick Hoak, offensive backfield coach. "Look at Houston. Earl Campbell is still a very young man, yet he's not carrying the ball 35 times a game like he used to."

Hoak refers to Harris as a "230-pounder who runs like a 200-pounder. He's got a fullback's body and a halfback's moves and mentality. He doesn't take people on unless he has to. And that is the secret to why he's been so great for so long."

Says Swann: "I don't think Franco relates to retirement or getting older. He takes good care of himself through training, his diet and getting rest. He leads a life that is conducive to a long career."

Center Mike Webster heads a dedicated, experienced unit that is steadily reaching the level of the Steeler blocking units of the Super Bowl years.

For the Steelers, the names change but the winning tradition goes on.

END

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TOM LANDRY
He Really *Can* Unbend

The public's image of Dallas Coach Tom Landry: cold, impassive, humorless.

by Carlton Stowers

The incident occured several years ago, in a spring when victory in Super Bowl XII was still a fond, comforting memory, and training camp was far enough in the future not to be of great concern. The Dallas Cowboys' organization, from front office to players to training room employees, had gathered for the traditional team party. At the annual function, it had become standard procedure for Coach Tom Landry, Player Personnel Director Gil Brandt and Scout John Wooten to put on aprons and assume the cooking chores.

On this particular evening, however, something of a milestone in Cowboy history would be recorded. Dinner completed and frivolity reaching toward new heights, a collection of players made a rush on Landry; lifted his 6-2, 195-pound frame; and unceremoniously tossed the architect of two Super Bowl champions into the swimming pool.

Soaked and surprised, Landry surfaced with a wide smile on his face, a smile that millions of armchair quarterbacks have never spotted from their vantage point in the living room. Relaxed, having fun, Landry dog-paddled to the side of the pool and made it a point to inform the culprits that he would make a special effort to remember everyone involved in the impromptu horseplay. "I'm sure," he said, "this little episode will come to mind some hot afternoon after we get to training camp."

Everyone laughed, including Landry, who, amateur psychologists have determined, has a heart of stone and the emotional range of those computers the Cowboys' organization has become famous for.

It's a bad rap, this conclusion of outsiders who don't know Landry.

Consider these flashbacks from his coaching career and judge for yourself:

Don Meredith was still the quarterback of the Cowboys, and one afternoon, during a particularly discouraging practice session, he had been far off-target with yet another pass. Frustrated, Meredith said, "Well, I'll be a son of a . . ." Landry, happening by, grinned ever so slightly and quipped, "Don, I don't think that would help you throw the ball any better."

Meredith, taken aback at first by the quick-draw response, laughed. So did Landry, the man who remains the only coach the Cowboys have ever had, the man who has directed them into the playoffs a record 17 times in the past 18 seasons.

One year there was a bomb threat in the press box of Yankee Stadium during a Cowboys-Giants game. At the postgame press conference, Landry was advised of the situation by a writer who, in a light moment, asked what he would have done had an explosion actually occurred and killed all the sportswriters on hand. Straight-faced, Landry considered the possibility for a moment, then said, "We probably would have observed about 30 seconds of silence . . . and then gone on with the game with all due enthusiasm."

Obviously pleased with his reply, Landry joined in the laughter that followed.

The strike of '82 was a disconcerting time in the career of a coach who is the first to admit that any disruption of routine has adverse effects on the progress and preparation of his team. With no place to go and time to bide, Landry accepted an offer to do a national television spot for the American Express Co. In it, he would appear in an Old West setting, looking more like Wyatt Earp than the NFL's Best Dressed Man, which he's been on several occasions.

The script called for him to dismount from his horse after a dusty ride into town and enter a saloon, where he was quickly surrounded by actors dressed in Washington Redskins' uniforms. Cowboy Tom, suddenly encircled by Indians, played it to the hilt. He handled his role so well that rumors circulated almost immediately that the commercial might win awards.

Certainly, it won Landry new fans. And put a roundhouse damper on the long-standing assumption that he is a man lacking personality and a sense of humor. With that commercial, his good-time side came out of the closet.

"Quite honestly," Landry admits, "doing that commercial probably did more to change my image than anything I've done since I got into the coaching business. But I didn't do it with that in mind. It was just one of those things that came up and, because of the situation with the strike, because I had some time, I went ahead.

"I get the impression that the American Express thing amazed a lot of people because they saw it as something totally out of character for me."

Landry, who at 58 ranks as the third winningest NFL coach of all time, is quite aware that the public's perception of him as a stoic has been molded primarily by what it has seen on Sunday afternoons.

"Hopefully, I am different from what I seem to be on the sidelines," he says. "But really, I can't help that image. It's the way I've been ever since I started coaching."

Always careful to discourage any notion that he may be turning to a fast-and-loose posture and discarding the structured, intense approach to his profession, Landry says, "I think the most important quality a coach can have is leadership ability. You have to believe in what you're trying to accomplish and make your players believe it. I feel that responsibility strongly. What I want them to see in me is a person in control of the situation, whatever it might be. And seeing that, I want them to be confident things will somehow work out the way they are supposed to."

There are times, Landry points out, when the burden of responsibility prohibits the show

of emotion. "Emotion," he says, "is something you can express if you don't have the responsibility of making important decisions immediately. If you're calling plays on the sidelines, you don't have time to be emotional. It's distracting. I've never felt a coach could serve as a cheerleader and do his job properly. Any time you show emotion, your concentration or trend of thought is broken.

"That's just the way I am, the way I have to approach things. I'm very meticulous. Everything has to fit perfectly in our scheme, has to be working right and together. If something is out of kilter, I don't like it. A perfectionist? I suppose I am."

It is such a philosophy that caused Landry to have difficulties dealing with the strike, which abbreviated the 1982 season. The lengthy layoff halted the rhythm he had begun to establish, interrupted the concentration he so values.

"I honestly thought last year's team had more potential than any we have had since the '78 team that went to the Super Bowl," he says, "but the strike ruined all that. I'm not using that as an excuse, mind you. Everyone was in the same boat. Everyone was affected by it. But I do know that we were never able to re-establish the patterns we were building toward before things shut down. In that sense, it was a very frustrating thing to deal with."

Apparently, it caused more than one NFL coach to walk away from the profession. "Burnout" became a catchword as Philadelphia's Dick Vermeil and others opted to put the demands of coaching behind them.

The trend caused some to look to Landry, who has been at the same job with the same team for 23 seasons, to see if he, too, was winding down and considering an end to a career which has seen him accomplish every height the profession has to offer.

But there have been no telltale signs.

"When you've been at it as long as I have," says Landry, "I suppose it's natural for people to speculate on how much longer you'll stay around. Sure, there are things you get tired of doing, but that's going to be the case with any kind of job. The heart of the work—the games and preparing for them—is still an exciting and interesting thing for me. As long as I feel that way, as long as I enjoy what I'm doing, I'll continue."

Then what is it that separates Landry from those who have admitted that the pressures have wearied them into bad health and retirement?

Former Dallas defensive tackle Larry Cole, a Cowboy for 13 years before his retirement, offers perhaps the best explanation: "I guess the thing that impressed me the most about him was his ability to put so much into a game and yet not be consumed by it. He puts everything he has into the preparation and the sideline strategy, but after the game, he can walk away from it and leave it on the field. Not many coaches, if any, can do that."

Some observers, in fact, will tell you that Landry is more relaxed now than at any point in his lengthy career.

"He's having more fun now," says one of his closest associates. "He's really enjoying what he's doing. He's built his team to a point where he no longer feels the pressure to do a lot of things. Oh, he still works as hard as ever at it. He approaches each game with the same enthusiasm he's had for years, but deep down he knows he has his system working pretty well the way he wants it and that makes it easier for him to relax now and then."

To a point, Landry will agree with the observation. "Actually," he says, "I worry very little about things myself. I don't think I feel too much tension. I've been at this business a long time and I have come to recognize the hazards. I know that when my plan is set, if I can get the execution I want, things will be OK."

It is that quiet confidence that enables Landry to slip out of the pressure cooker where most in his business live. He will go so far as to tell you that the game at which he's been so successful is well down on his list of priorities, running no better than third to his Christian faith and his family. He does not sleep on a couch at the field house during the week. At 6 in the evening, he goes home. Tomorrow is another day.

It is that unique mixture of a demand for perfection and a seemingly relaxed pursuance of it which more than any aspect of his coaching makes Landry unique.

"He has a remarkably alert mind," says Jim Myers, for 22 years a Dallas assistant. "I've never known anyone who can recognize mistakes as quickly. And you'll never catch him setting any kind of pattern his opponent can take advantage of. He has never allowed the Cowboys to become stereotyped. It's something new and different all the time."

Before you get the idea that Thomas Wade Landry is the near-perfect man, he would have you understand that he is still learning, still making mistakes. One of the biggest he's made professionally, he says today, is expecting too much from others in times past.

All-Pro wide receiver Drew Pearson says: "Coach Landry is much different now in respect to his players and their individual needs than he was when I came to the Cowboys. He's mellowed considerably, to a point where he can relax a little more with the players.

"Players are different today. You have to give them a little more respect than maybe was the case in the past because so many are into things other than football 24 hours a day. They have outside business interests and Coach Landry realizes that. As a result, there is now a good relationship between him and his players."

Such, Landry will admit, has not always been the case.

"Maybe in the early years, I didn't understand people's problems and didn't accept them in a realistic way," he says. "Now, fortunately, I don't get quite so hung up on perfection. If you're always looking for perfection and not prepared to settle for something less, you're often going to find yourself disappointed.

"The older you get, the more you get around to enjoying life. Certain things don't seem as important as they once did. In recent years I've been better able to understand people. I've been more tolerant of their limitations. When I started coaching, just about everyone felt that the best way to deal with a football team was as a collective group rather than on an individual basis. I know now that's wrong. It's wrong to deal with any human being in such a manner."

There is, then, warmth and caring and a wide range of emotion behind the stone face that Sunday afternoon television cameras so often focus upon.

"I can see why I've gotten the image of coldness," Landry admits. "But that's the way I have to be on the sidelines. To me it's just like playing golf. Everyone used to say Ben Hogan never heard people talking when he was on the course. That's the level of concentration he had. I'm much the same way, I suppose."

It is an approach which has yielded impressive results: 223 wins, five conference titles, five Super Bowl appearances, two Super Bowl championships.

Landry hears on all sides how remarkable it is that he's been head coach of the Cowboys for so long.

"But if you look at it another way, I've been at this job for 23 years and I've never had a promotion," he says.

With that Landry laughs. It is something he does far more often than most people realize.

END

On the sidelines, Landry talks to Danny White.

CLEVELAND

For the Cleveland Browns, the torment of a strike-shortened season that ended with a loss to the Los Angeles Raiders in the AFC playoffs was brief and forgotten.

To a man, the Browns could reflect on last year's 4-6 record with more answers than questions, even though this is a team involved in a difficult quarterback transition, from 34-year-old Brian Sipe to young lefty Paul McDonald. The Browns have the foundation for one of the best defenses in the AFC and the linebackers for perhaps the best unit in the conference.

"We belonged in the playoffs," says Coach Sam Rutigliano, "and we made it. It was difficult because of the schedule we played. Since the strike, we played only one team (Houston) that did not qualify for the playoffs. Our defense is coming together."

"We found out everything we wanted to know about Chip," says Rutigliano. "Character, intelligence, things like that. He really fit the mold of what we wanted."

The Browns have a history of superb linebackers. Tradition was much in evidence last season when the Browns sent out a unit of rookie Chip Banks and veteran Clay Matthews outside and Tom Cousineau, ex-Canadian League player, and Dick Ambrose, a veteran, inside. Banks, third pick in the 1982 draft and one of four starters from Southern California, was spectacular as he earned Pro Bowl honors. Cousineau was solid, leading the defense with 72 tackles, 46 unassisted.

Bill Davis, the Browns' player personnel director, says the selection of Banks was made only after many hours of research.

"We enjoyed a close relationship with Banks," says Davis. "We had extensive interviews with him and studied films from his sophomore, junior and senior seasons. We felt that he was a dominant player at USC."

"We found out everything we wanted to know about Chip," says Rutigliano. "Character, intelligence, things like that. He really fit the mold of what we wanted." Artie Gigantino, Banks' linebacker coach at USC, likes to reflect on the 1980 season when talking about Banks. That year, the Trojans intercepted 22 passes. "One way or another," says Gigantino, "Banks was a factor in 17 of them. He intercepted two and on the other 15 he did something to cause the ball to be intercepted."

Cleveland opened the season with veteran Henry Bradley playing nosetackle. But after failing to negotiate a trade with the Philadelphia Eagles for noseguard Charlie Johnson because they lacked high draft picks, the Browns made a steal. They grabbed linebacker Bob Golic, a former second-round draft pick, on waivers from New England and converted him to nosetackle. Golic finished with 19 tackles and five sacks.

"Golic was a natural," says Tom Pratt, defensive line coach. "He wrestled in college and that helped him with leverage. He is hard to move and has a low center of gravity. Wrestling skills helped him use his arms effectively."

With the addition of Banks and Golic, the Browns can look forward to more consistency on defense for years to come. Offensively, they are about to leave the Sipe era and go with McDonald, a nervy kid with a stout arm and the toughness to laugh at a rusher's best shot and come back throwing.

Rutigliano and Owner Art Modell knew that McDonald, a three-year man, was their future in the final regular-season game, a 37-21 loss to the Pittsburgh Steelers. Trailing 27-7 early in the fourth period, the Browns staged a furious rally to pull within six points. McDonald, who threw for 311 yards, found receivers Ricky Feacher (twice) and Dave Logan for three touchdown passes.

"We have great expectations for McDonald," says Modell. "He's going to be great some day. McDonald played four impressive games. His future is very bright. When you figure he hadn't played that much, he did it almost as a rookie."

Modell says the Browns need help at wide receiver and on the offensive line. The

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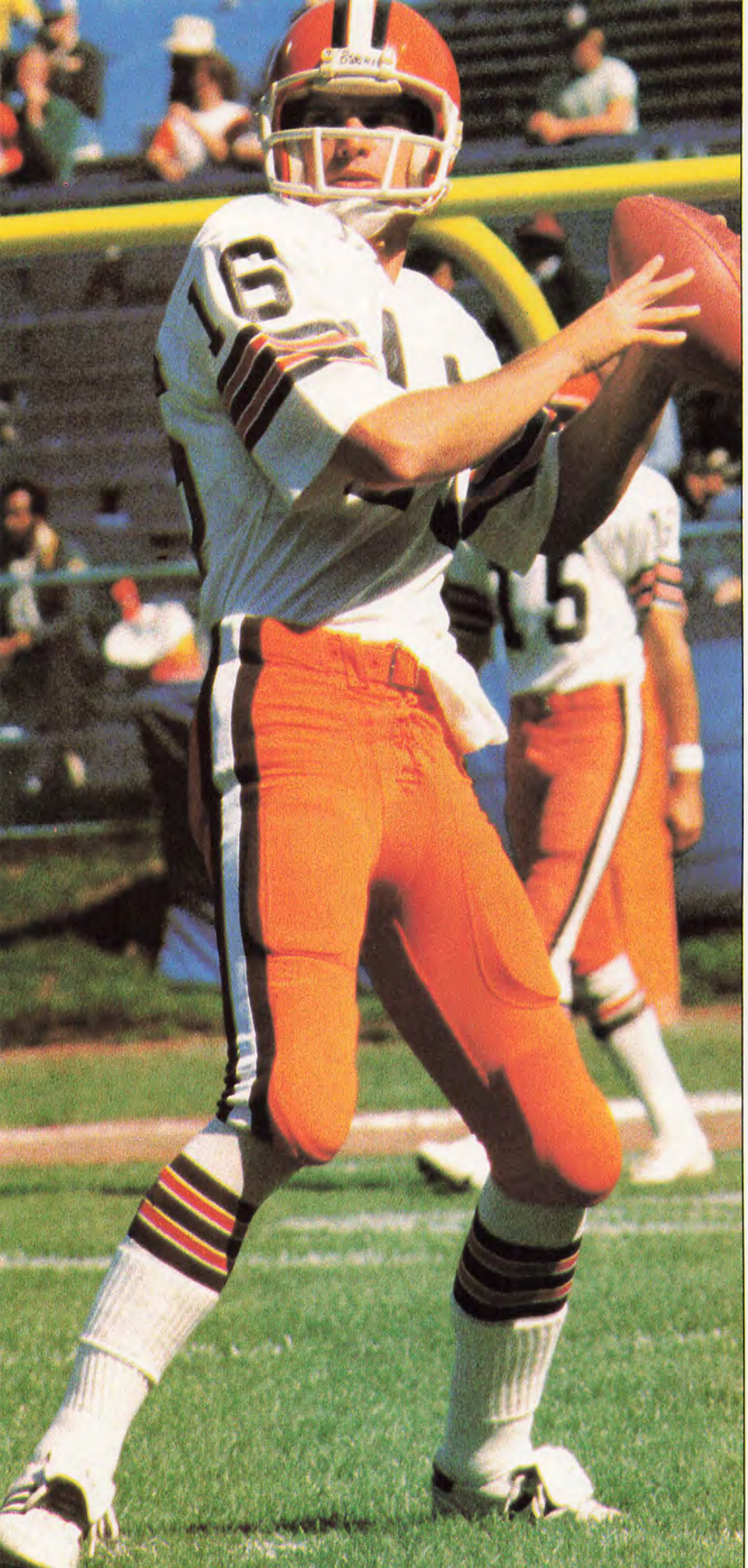
Averaging eight tackles a game, Tom Cousineau contributes mightily to an outstanding Browns' linebacking unit.



The era of southpaw Paul McDonald has begun and will be in full swing this season.

(Cleveland continued)

front includes 34-year-old Doug Dieken at left tackle, 32-year-old Tom DeLeone at center, 32-year-old Joe DeLamielleure at right guard and 30-year-old Robert Jackson at left guard.

"We're aging collectively," says Modell. "We need a fast running back. We need speed overall. And if Lawrence Johnson (left cornerback) really tore up his knee, we may need another cornerback."

Modell has drawn up a list of quality free agents that he feels could help the Browns. Yet, without a first-round pick to offer in the 1983 draft (given up for Cousineau, along with a third-rounder in 1984 and a fifth-rounder in 1985), the Browns are hardly in a strong position to wheel and deal for an unhappy player.

"Offensively, we created more big plays (over the final month)," says Rutigliano. "And big plays win at this level."

Can Cleveland, a notorious in-and-out team, turn it around?

It probably depends on the solution to the Sipe-McDonald quarterback issue. McDonald, another USC talent—Matthews and running back Charles White are the other two with the Browns—is extremely popular with the younger Browns. Yet, the older players can't forget how Sipe took them to an 11-5 regular-season record and within one accurate pass of the AFC title game three years ago. With Sipe and McDonald splitting time last season, the Browns played scattershot offense. They finished eighth in total offense (302 yards per game, only 140 points in all) but fifth in passing (205 yards a game, yet only 52.1 percent accuracy). Sipe threw for more yards (1,064 yards to 993) but McDonald had more touchdown passes (five to four). Each was intercepted eight times and sacked 13 times.

At the season's end, however, Rutigliano appeared committed to McDonald. "Offensively, we created more big plays (over the final month)," says Rutigliano. "And big plays win at this level. McDonald did a good job."

But it is on defense that the Browns feel they can begin to dominate teams the way the Pittsburgh Steelers did during their Super Bowl years.

Cleveland has what Rutigliano feels eventually will be one of the best linebacking units in pro football.

"I don't know if I can be a Lawrence Taylor," says Banks, who has been given the same blitzing role with the Browns that Taylor has with the New York Giants. "I'm definitely my own man. I want to do my share and just be Chip Banks. I want to be able to have an impact on this team and bring a Super Bowl to Cleveland."

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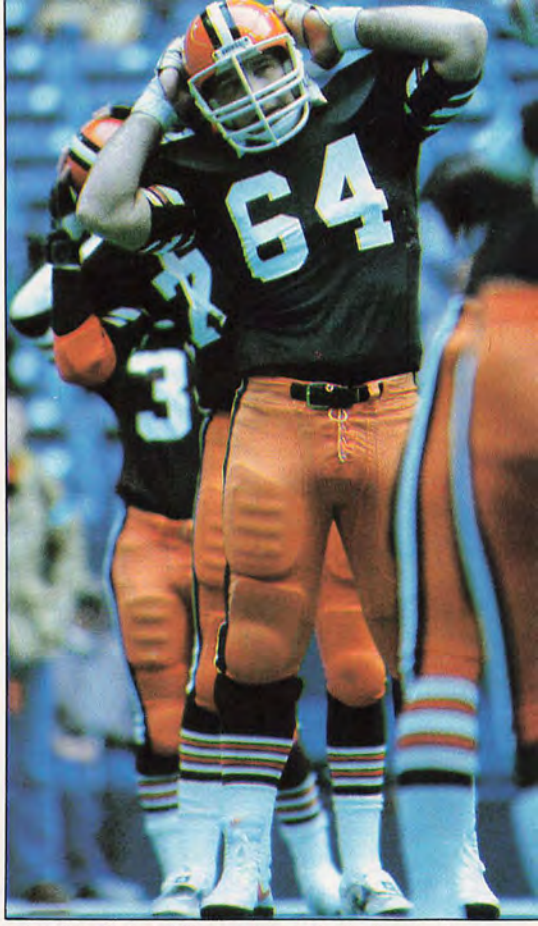
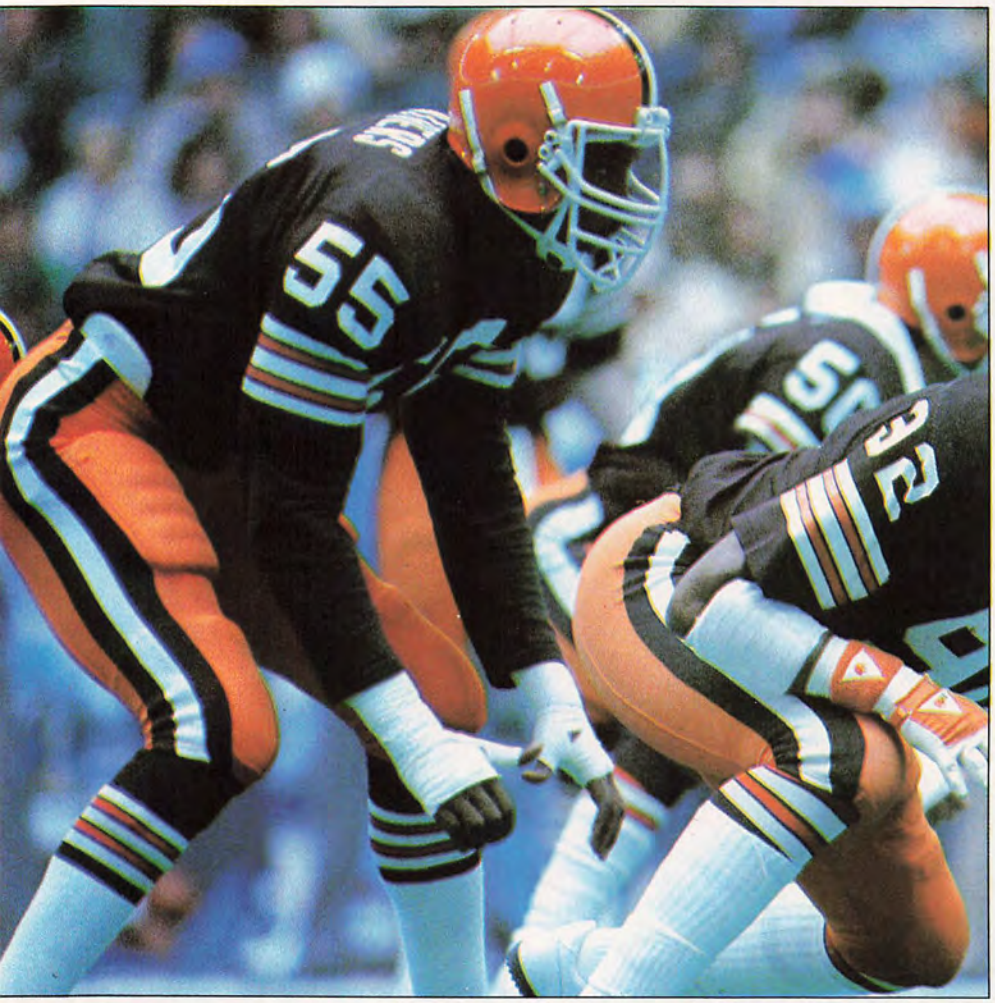
Drink in the Good Things





Guard Joe DeLamielleure (top) and linebacker Curtis Weathers (bottom left) fit into Sam Rutigliano's plans to turn it around this season in Cleveland.

(Cleveland continued)

Banks got a chance to play inside in his senior year at Southern Cal when the Trojans failed to develop a middle linebacker.

"I have more confidence playing outside," Banks says. "I think that my abilities are better-suited on the outside, but I am a team guy. I always have been and I always will be. The best thing for me to do at that time was to play in the middle."

Around that exceptional linebacking unit, the Browns start a rush line of Marshall Harris and Mike Robinson outside and Golic inside at nosetackle, and a secondary of Ron Bolton and Hanford Dixon at the corners and Clarence Scott and Clinton Burrell inside at safeties. Dixon has 4.45 speed. Burrell, a former cornerback, has enough quickness and range to become a top free safety.

With the retirement of Jerry Sherk in 1981 and the trade of Lyle Alzado last year to the Los Angeles Raiders, the Browns gave up experience and pass-rushing skills to bring in youth at both ends. Robinson, a third-year defensive end from Arizona, could develop into a fine rusher. Harris has the size at 6-6 but lacks Robinson's quickness and instincts.

The Browns have added ex-Charger Larrye Weaver as offensive coordinator and will send in plays for the first time. They also opened an indoor workout facility by converting an abandoned tennis facility into a 35-yard field with synthetic turf on the city's west side. Thirty-seven players used the site in the off-season.

They want to turn it around, all right.

END

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ST. LOUIS

He had come into the league ballyhooed as one of the game's next superstars. The new Terry Bradshaw, some said, the man who would redirect the fortunes of the middle-of-the-road St. Louis Cardinals. Fans already had a nickname waiting: The Gateway Gunner.

After all, what other quarterback available in the 1981 college player draft had the kind of science fiction statistics the kid from little Portland State had established? Didn't he throw seven touchdown passes—in just one quarter—against Delaware State? How about that 93-7 victory he engineered over Cal-Poly Pomona? And those 12 Saturdays in which he threw for over 400 yards?

Never mind that Neil Lomax hadn't done his thing at one of the NCAA powerhouses. Anybody who could throw the way he could, who could establish 90 NCAA Division 1-AA records during his career had to be something special. Even television commentator Roger Staubach, a man with some quarterbacking background, said Lomax had every tool necessary to develop into an NFL standout.

Lomax was being hailed as the quarterback of the future, of course, but he was concerned about how long he would have to wait before he would play regularly.

On draft day, however, the 6-3, 215-pounder began to wonder. When the first round was completed, only one quarterback, California's Rich Campbell, had been selected (by Green Bay). Lomax would have to wait until the fifth pick of the second round.

"At the time, I was very upset and disappointed," he says. "I still remember that day very well. Everyone had told me I would be a first-round selection, and I couldn't understand what had happened."

Meanwhile, Cardinals' Coach Jim Hanifan was delighted. Having taken linebacker E. J. Junior of Alabama in the first round, then picking up Lomax in round two, he proudly proclaimed that St. Louis had stolen away with two first-round picks.

Lomax, dealing with the first stab his ego had suffered in longer than he could remember, traveled to St. Louis to prove he was, in fact, a No. 1. The biggest hurdle he would face, he knew, was the vast experience of Cardinals' quarterback Jim Hart, who had been at his business for 15 years. Lomax was being hailed as the quarterback of the future, of course, but he was concerned about how long he would have to wait before he would play regularly.

Fate shortened the wait. When Hart was injured in the first quarter of the opening game in 1981, Lomax came on and completed 14 of 30 passes. But the Cardinals lost to Miami 20-7. He went the distance the following week against the Dallas Cowboys, throwing for an impressive 295 yards, but again, no cigar. Dallas won 30-17.

St. Louis fans cheered the news that mainstay Hart was ready to return. Lomax, with little more than bumps and bruises to show for his efforts, resigned himself to a rookie year of backup performance.

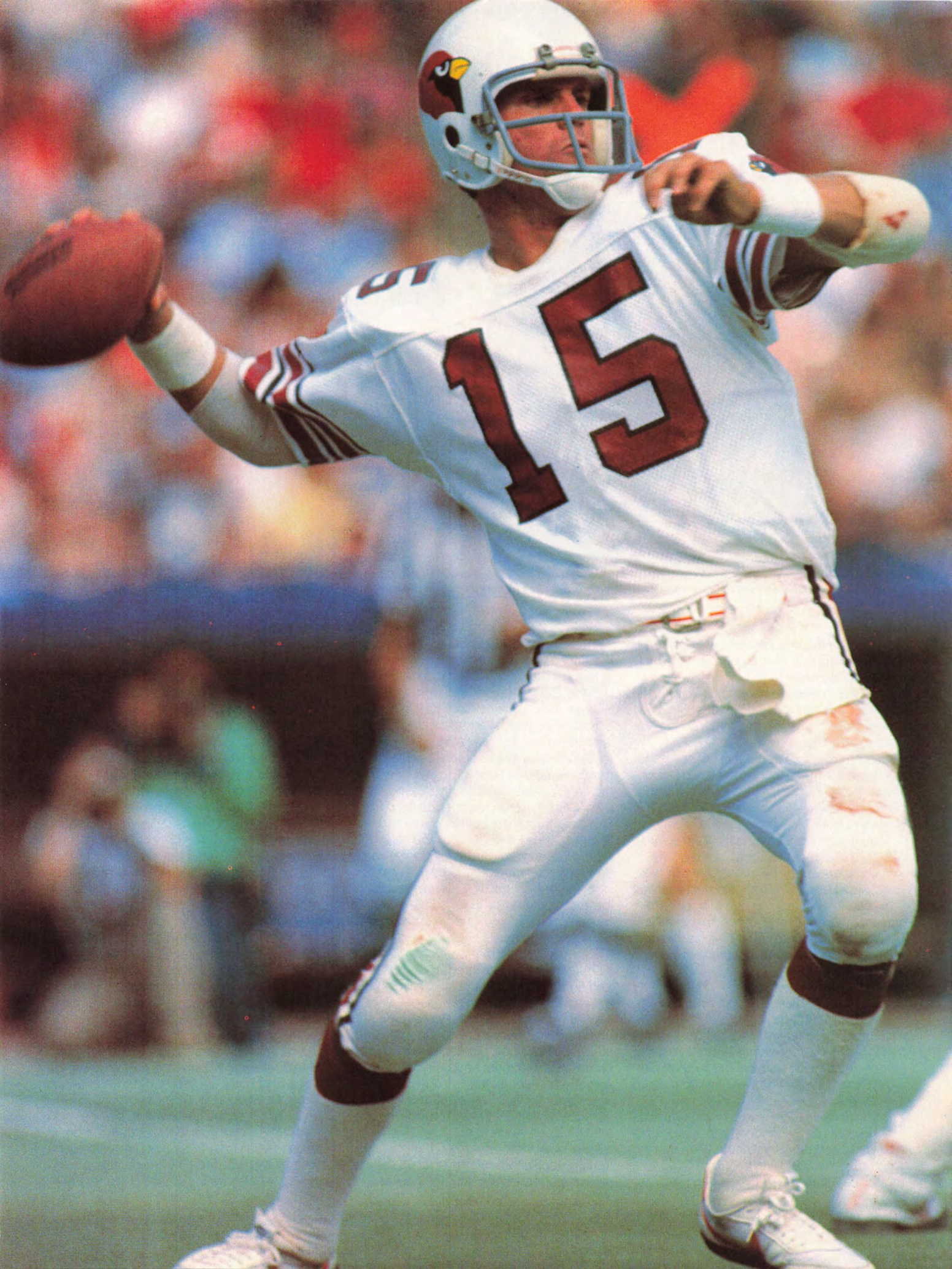
However, when Cardinal fortunes dipped to 3-7 and no salvation remained for the season, Hanifan began looking ahead, building for another year. He summoned Lomax back to the starting lineup, benching Hart. It was not a popular decision. Fans and players alike made it clear they weren't ready for someone the radio disc jockeys were calling The Gateway Gunner to direct the team.

Lomax set about to make believers of them all, setting an impressive pace as the Cardinals went on a four-game winning streak—the longest since 1977—and pulled the team to the .500 mark. Die-hard Hart fans jumped on the Lomax bandwagon and remained there despite back-to-back losses in the final two weeks of the season.

Lomax himself wasn't ready to claim he was a bona fide NFL quarterback. He did, however, say that being allowed to play sped the learning process necessary to achieve such a goal. "Deep down," he says, "I thought it would take me a long time to learn the things I needed to know and to become a starter. The events that took place in my rookie year just escalated everything. Coach Hanifan said those final

(continued)

Neil Lomax doesn't throw seven touchdown passes in one quarter like he did in college, but he's become a top-notch pro.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Tony Dorsett pays for a few hard-earned yards as he's flattened by Rush Brown (69), Calvin Favron (59) and other Cardinals.

(St. Louis continued)

six games of the season cemented my foundation and started my career. Looking back, I'd have to agree."

In full command last season, Lomax led the youthful Cardinals into the playoffs with a 5-4 record, fourth-best in the NFC during the strike-marred campaign.

He completed 53 percent of his passes for 1,367 yards and five touchdowns and demonstrated poise that belied his tenure in the NFL. He threw fewer interceptions (six) than any starting quarterback in the league.

Now, it appears, Lomax is the man Hanifan will build his team around. "I think Neil is in a situation where he should start to blossom," says Hanifan. "He showed last year that he's capable of getting the job done. He gained the confidence of the coaches and players on this team. That's all he needed, really. It's obvious to everyone that he has great physical ability."

Although the Cardinals were defeated by Green Bay 41-16 in the first round of the Super Bowl tournament, Hanifan says, "We eliminated the defeatist attitude. We showed that on several occasions—winning close games and coming from behind. And we did it with young players who were forced to learn as they went."

Both offensive tackles were rookies as was the free safety. Second-year players were sprinkled throughout the lineup. Thus, there is good reason for optimism about the Cardinals' immediate future.

The offensive line, a major question mark this time a year ago, appears to be one of the strong suits, thanks to the emergence of rookie tackles Luis Sharpe and Tootie Robbins. Sharpe, the Cardinals' No. 1 pick, moved in at left tackle on the first day of training camp and was never moved out. Within the week, the move of veteran Dan Dierdorf to center allowed fourth-round pick Robbins to take over at right tackle. By season's end, the Cardinals had two All-Rookie team members at the positions.

Additional stability comes from guards Terry Stieve and Joe Bostic. And, of course, five-time All-Pro Dierdorf provided the anchor at center a year ago and should be even better in '83.

"Everyone in the line did an exceptional job last year," says Hanifan. "All you have to do is look at the success we had with our rushing game."

The key man in that area again was Ottis Anderson, who had three 100-yard games and finished fourth in the NFC rushing derby despite missing one game. "Ottis was on a 1000-yard pace again last year in the shortened season," Hanifan says. "Only Earl Campbell (Houston) has outrushed him since he came into the league. And, believe me, Anderson can be even better."

Veteran fullback Wayne Morris had a solid '82 campaign and returns to provide the critical lead block for Anderson.

And now there is some depth in the St. Louis ground attack. Stump Mitchell, the club's reliable punt and kick returner, played well in place of Anderson at times a year ago. Subbing for Anderson against a strong Philadelphia defense, Mitchell had a 145-yard day. Over the course of the season, he also caught 11 passes for 149 yards.

Lomax and backup Hart had good targets. Wide receiver Pat Tilley led the team in receptions for the fifth straight year, catching 36 for 465 yards, and Roy Green, after just one full season on offense, appears to be the heir to Mel Gray's big play role. A two-way performer in '81, Green settled on offense last season and responded with 32 receptions for 453 yards and three touchdowns. "He still hasn't realized his full potential," insists Hanifan. "Once he does, he will be one of the top receivers in the NFL."

A battle for the starting tight end job looms between four-year veteran Doug Marsh and third-year man Greg LaFleur. They split time a year ago. Neither, however, figures prominently in the Cardinals' passing game. Marsh has the inside track because of his speed and catching ability.

"We're hoping that Doug can develop into the well-rounded tight end we're looking for," Hanifan says. "We need a guy who can go deep and make the catch. I'm not counting Greg out. We'll see who comes out on top. We'll be in good shape whoever is playing. And frequently, both will be." A dark horse is second-year man Eddie McGill, tenth-round draft pick in '82 who saw limited action.

The defense, which ranked sixth in the con-

ference against the rush and ninth against the pass, will be a prime concern.

The Cardinals were relieved when Junior, facing cocaine charges, was placed on probation. The former first-round draft pick was a mainstay in the defense in his second season, accounting for 58 tackles and 11 defensed passes. "E.J. improved dramatically over his rookie year," Hanifan says. "Now that he's settled into one position instead of having to move around so much, he should become a defensive leader."

Rounding out the youthful linebacker corps will be three-year man Dave Ahrens, who started in the middle in the latter part of the '82 season, and three-year veteran Charlie Baker, the team's leading tackler with 67 stops, who again will work on the right side.

The performance of the Cardinals' linebackers can be greatly helped by a solid season from the front four. Right end Curtis Greer is the most prominent of the group, having led the team in sacks for the third year in a row, collecting seven and one-half. He also recovered three fumbles. "I think he'll be a Pro Bowl candidate this year," Hanifan says. "His pass rush is outstanding and he improved against the run last year."

The Cardinals, who average only 24 years of age and welcomed no less than 13 new starters a year ago, may well be the NFL team of the future.

At left end will be Elois Grooms, who had a good season last year after coming to the Cardinals in a trade with New Orleans.

The senior citizen in the line is left tackle Mike Dawson, who will enter his eighth season. At the other tackle will be either Rush Brown or second-year man David Galloway. The job had been claimed by Galloway, a No. 2 draft selection, during training camp, but he suffered a dislocated elbow in the second preseason game and Brown moved back into the lineup. Galloway did return late in the year and started in the playoff game against Green Bay.

"David showed us he's got what we're looking for," says Hanifan, indicating he'll get first crack at the starting job this year.

Lending reserve strength will be Bruce Thornton, acquired from Dallas a year ago, and Stafford Mays.

If the Cardinals are to be a solid defensive force in '83, the secondary will have to show much improvement. The youthful group has had a year's experience. With help from draft choices, it should be better.

Free safety Benny Perrin made the All-Rookie team along with Sharpe and Robbins. Perry was credited with 52 tackles. His first interception came in the season opener. But it proved to be his last. Still, the coaching staff was pleased with his progress and has expressed belief that he'll be a competent performer this season.

Working at strong safety last year was Lee Nelson, who moved to the spot after spending most of his seven-year career at cornerback.

The left cornerback job belongs to another youngster, Jeff Griffin, who moved into a starting role in his second year in the NFL. An aggressive hitter with excellent speed, he knocked down 16 passes in '82.

Hanifan has made it clear that the right corner, occupied by Carl Allen last year, is wide open. Among those battling Allen for the job will be Vance Bedford and Herb Williams, along with first- and second-round draft choices Leonard Smith of McNeese State and Cedric Mack of Baylor.

"To get back into the playoffs," says Hanifan, "we've got to play better defense. And I think we've got the people, young though they might be, to be vastly improved. After what we accomplished last year, I believe we're headed in the right direction."

Indeed, the Cardinals, who average only 24 years of age and welcomed no less than 13 new starters a year ago, may well be the NFL team of the future.

END

Wayne Morris (24), as lead blocker, has helped Ottis Anderson (32) gain 1000-plus yards three times.

MINNESOTA

Joe Senser received an early, convincing lesson in life. An older brother was sent to the penitentiary.

Senser is one of the NFL's bright young stars, one of its showcase personalities, a fine citizen and protector and breadwinner for his mother. She saw to it 15 years ago that her son would not face the temptations of his older brother.

The Minnesota tight end's father, a self-employed appliance repair shop operator, died of a brain tumor and left his wife Eileen with five children to raise in the Philadelphia suburb of Pendell.

Here's how Senser, now 26, describes those times:

"I had two older brothers and two younger sisters. One brother went into the Marines, the other to the penitentiary.

"I was in bed at 9 every night for six years except for vacations. I learned the work ethic. I learned discipline. I learned a trade—masonry."

"The neighborhood where we lived was full of gangs. Drugs and trouble were everywhere.

"We figured Mother could not support the family (with two jobs—factory worker during the day, grocery store at night) and take care of all the kids, too.

"I was 11, the only one of the smaller children old enough to qualify for an orphanage. Mother and I talked about it. She felt it would be my best opportunity to get out of that place. It was my choice and I made it."

It turned out to be a pivotal decision.

Senser was not headed for a work farm, where food would be skimpy and his clothes tattered. Instead, he was accepted at the Milton Hershey School in Hershey, Pa., an institution created by the king of chocolate for the care and education of underprivileged children.

"It was my salvation," says Senser. "It is a beautiful place, well-known for its learning processes. It may be the best school of its kind in the country. We earned what we got.

"We worked hard and we learned. We got up early for farm chores, went to classes and did more farm chores. I cooked and cleaned. But there was always time for sports.

"I was in bed at 9 every night for six years except for vacations. I learned the work ethic. I learned discipline. I learned a trade—masonry. I could apply it if I had to. But sports would be my future and I knew it."

West Chester State in West Chester, Pa., had no athletic scholarships, so Senser borrowed money from the government to attend college. Eventually, he became a long-shot sixth-round draft pick of the Vikings in 1979. He won a place on the team against odds, becoming important to Coach Bud Grant's organization as a player and a person.

Senser's story, which began when he left home and entered the orphanage—a painful decision—reached a storybook climax when he bought a condominium for his mother and brought her and his sisters, 24 and 21, to live in the clean air and climate of Minnesota. He's also building his own home there.

"I went to West Chester State because there I could play two sports," Senser says. "Basketball was first with me. I didn't play football until I was a junior in high school.

"My brother from the Marines and I borrowed the money and went to West Chester together. A teacher there kicked me one day at basketball practice and said if I could play basketball, I sure as heck could play football, too."

Senser became a wide receiver. He caught 154 passes for 2,210 yards and 14 touchdowns in his college career. As a basketball player, he set an NCAA record for field-goal accuracy, hitting 69.9 percent of his shots. The old record belonged to Lew Alcindor (now Kareem Abdul Jabbar) of UCLA.

Senser's future in sports was uncertain until the 1979 draft. When the selection process reached the sixth round, considered the start of the ho-hum picks, Grant

(continued)

Joe Senser's rise to a position of eminence in pro football is a Horatio Alger-like story.

Playing inside at home, Tommy Kramer will pass more often for Bud Grant's Vikings.

(Minnesota continued)

and Mike Lynn, Minnesota's general manager, told a new scout, Ralph Kohl, to pick a player. Kohl had been hired to pay more attention to schools in the East.

Much is expected of him now as a leader, blocker and pass receiver in an offense that features the pass.

When Kohl called out the name of Joe Senser, some asked, "Who's he?" But Kohl stood by his decision.

Senser reported to the Vikings' training camp where there was no shortage of tight ends. Bob Tucker was there, as well as Stu Voight and Steve Craig.

But the Vikings liked what they saw in Senser. He worked hard. He was quiet and uncomplaining. He also ran fast, caught passes and learned to block. When he suffered an ankle injury in late August of '79, the Vikings put him on the injured reserve list. He did not play that season but spent his time after the injury healed learning how the Vikings wanted him to play tight end.

"I was very fortunate that first season," says Senser. "The injury gave me time to learn. Then when Stu retired the next year, it opened things up for me. Luckily for me, I arrived at just the right time. The Vikings were undergoing a changing of the guard."

Indeed, the face of the Vikings was changing. Senser became not just another tight end, but one of the premier players at his position in the NFL. Much is expected of him now as a leader, blocker and pass receiver in an offense that features the pass and no longer has the services of Ahmad Rashad, who retired after catching 495 passes for 6,831 yards and 44 touchdowns in his career.

The running game is promising. Tommy Kramer (176 completions in 308 attempts for 15 touchdowns in '82) will be in his seventh year. Grant is still Grant, and the reconstructed defense has just enough veteran All-Pro talent for good balance.

"I wouldn't want to be anywhere else," Senser says. "It was a winding road but here I am and I'm happy."

END

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Herschel Walker Pleads for Understanding

by Tom McCollister

Herschel Walker stretched a leg onto the fence that surrounds the University of Georgia track and leaned his massive torso forward, pulling at the hamstring that was as tight as a banjo string. It was early February and memories of the Sugar Bowl loss to Penn State had been replaced by expectations of a successful track season and his engagement to Cindy DiAngelis.

Walker was happy. He talked easily of the football season past, winning the Heisman Trophy and the pleasure he felt in finally putting to rest—once and for all—any doubts that he would not return to Georgia for his senior season.

Less than three weeks later, the storm broke and the peaceful community of Athens, and yes, all of Georgia and much of the nation were shocked when Walker was first declared ineligible for negotiating with the New Jersey Generals of the United States Football League, then signed with that team.

How could he do it? How could he turn his back on another Heisman Trophy? How could he not finish what he'd started? How could he not continue the career that surely would result in his becoming the greatest running back in NCAA history and erase all those Tony Dorsett records? Why, Herschel, why did you deceive everybody? Why did you lie?

On Friday, Feb. 18, Walker had held a press conference in the lounge of McWhorter Hall, the athletic dorm, at which time he denied being offered a contract by the Generals. Yes, he'd met with Generals Owner J. Walter Duncan. Yes, he'd talked about playing in the USFL, but not this year—next year. No, he hadn't signed anything or done anything that would make him ineligible.

Three days later, the USFL produced documents that showed beyond any doubt that Walker, his attorney Jack Manton and his long-time friend Bob Newsome had carried on negotiations with the USFL. Coach Vince Dooley was informed and he told Walker that he was therefore ineligible. On Wednesday, Feb. 23, Walker did the only thing left to do. He signed a three-year, multi-million dollar contract.

You would be hard-pressed to find anybody connected with Georgia, Walker or maybe all of college football who didn't believe that Herschel was led astray. It was as if some outsider had come in under cover of darkness and with a lot of fancy words stolen another Southern treasure.

Dooley felt that he'd been betrayed, not by Walker, but by a professional league that promised it wouldn't sign underclassmen and by people close to Walker, who didn't have his interest at heart.

"I'm mad at Herschel like I would be if one of my children did something wrong," Dooley said. "I'm particularly upset that he pursued this course after what he'd said about what he wanted to do—complete his eligibility at Georgia, get his education and attempt to make the United States Olympic team.

"What hurts is that knowing Herschel the way I do, I know this isn't what he wanted to do. I think he thought he'd be able to handle it, but at age 20, he was no match for what he became involved in. He received no guidance from his family. The people close to him did a great job of keeping him away from me."

It gnawed at Dooley that maybe he didn't do enough to help Walker. He knew that Walker had been offered a contract as early as Feb. 15 but placed all his faith in Walker's statements that he would return to Georgia for his final year. And he knew USFL Commissioner Chet Simmons and believed in public statements that the league would turn down any contract involving an underclassman. Now, Dooley admits to being naive.

"If I'd known those people were in Athens with the blessing of the USFL office, I would have gone to that motel, beat on the door and fought for Walker," Dooley said. "If I'd known they were that cold-blooded and unprincipled, maybe I could have had some influence with Herschel, at least given him another view."

Walker's teammates were surprised but did not feel betrayed. They took one look at the money he received and wondered aloud why anyone could be anything but happy for him.

"I felt he'd come back," said quarterback John Lastinger, "but I don't feel he let the team down. How could he turn down that kind of offer? He's set for life financially. I wish him well."

Guy McIntyre, one of the offensive linemen, agreed. "When word came that he'd been offered $16 million, everybody around here was saying, 'Take it, take it,' " said McIntyre. "He has a family to take care of and it would be selfish of the university and his fans to resent his going. I think he's done enough for those people. They should be glad he came here in the first place."

Some said his loss would not destroy the team, that the Bulldogs would be just as good in 1983. But that had to be knee-jerk reaction. Safety Jeff Sanchez got to the bottom line quickly.

"A lot of people are saying this won't affect our football team," Sanchez said. "They don't know what they're talking about. With him, we're a great team. Without him, we're in there with a lot of other good teams. His loss won't kill us, but gosh, it sure will hurt."

And what of Walker? Did he know what he was doing? Did he realize that he was, as Dooley said, playing with fire? Did he really believe that once he told Duncan he had changed his mind, he was free and clear?

The answers are as complex as the man. His natural curiosity led him to see what was out there. It wasn't just the money. It was the excitement of expanding his horizons, doing anything to keep boredom out of his life. It was a game, one he thought he would be able to win.

And, yes, Walker believed that after signing the contract on Thursday night, Feb. 17, and then telling Duncan in the early hours of Feb. 18 that he'd changed his mind, he had done nothing wrong.

"Herschel was pressured on all sides to go ahead and take the money," said one of his close friends. "To get out of the immediate problem, he signed. He's always tried to please everybody, but for the first time in his life he decided to do something for himself. He wanted to stay in school. He wanted another Heisman. He wanted Dorsett's records. He liked the college life. When he told Duncan thanks, but no thanks, it was like the world was lifted off his shoulders."

There has to be truth in much of that. On Tuesday, the day it all came down on him, he registered for the spring quarter. He was on his way to track practice when assistant coach Mike Cavan called him and told him to get in touch with Dooley. He never made it to track practice. For the next two days, he holed up in his apartment like a condemned criminal. Once, he went out on the balcony, saw me (Editor's note: Tom McCollister covers Georgia football for *The Atlanta Journal and Constitution* and has known Walker for three years) and said, "Come on up, I want to talk to you."

Walker acted like a frightened child. He was confused, not at all the confident man he'd been in three seasons of leading the Bulldogs to a 33-3 record, one national championship and three Southeastern Conference titles. He sat down on his bed, lowered his head and talked softly.

"What is everybody saying about me?" he asked. "Does everybody hate me? You know what I really hate about all this is what the little kids think about me now. I hope I haven't done anything to hurt them.

"I may have made some bad judgments, some mistakes, but it's done. It's important to me that people try to remember the good things that I've done at Georgia, the contributions I've made. I didn't want things to turn out this way, not like this. But, I've made a decision. Now, I have to go on with my life.

"I'll never forget Georgia and I hope they don't forget me. I'm coming back in the fall to go to school. I still want my degree. My plans haven't changed, just been redirected. I'm going to every game I can and nobody will yell louder for the team."

How far the Bulldogs can go without Walker is unknown. No one player can replace him. No one player will try.

Someday they'll retire jersey No. 34 at Georgia. But not yet. The disappointment still lingers, but it will pass, and in time there will be a ceremony in the middle of Sanford Stadium between the hedges and Herschel Walker will be there. And again he will hear the cheers . . . "Herschel, Herschel, Herschel!"

END

Joe Falls Picks
The All-Time Pro Team

by Joe Falls

Question: How do you pick the All-Time Pro football team?

Answer: With great prejudice.

For instance, I want to put Hugh McElhenny on my all-time team because nobody in my time ever ran with the grace of this man. He flowed like mercury in a vial, back and forth, smooth and slippery, changing speeds, changing directions, changing, it seemed, everything but his long johns as he eluded one tackler after another.

Imagine a pair of runners like Hugh McElhenny and Gale Sayers operating out of the same backfield—heaven. How would you defense them? They could attack both flanks with equal speed and deception, or they could squirm through the middle like oily eels. A Gatling gun might stop them.

Yet, only prejudice would put them on my all-time team, and there is no room for prejudice on this team I am picking for *Athlon*.

Nobody has seen all the players play all the games since the National Football League became a formal enterprise in 1933—not even the Papa Bear himself, George Halas. It was Halas, the scourge of Chicago, along with his old adversary, George Preston Marshall, the stubborn owner of the Boston (later Washington) Redskins, who decided pro football should go big-time in 1933, and it was these two men who introduced the changes to the game which seem so obvious to us today.

For instance: divisional play.

The NFL played as one unit in 1932 with two teams in Chicago and one each in Green Bay, Portsmouth (Ohio), Boston, New York, Brooklyn and Stapleton, wherever that happened to be.

To make the game more appealing to the public and, therefore, more profitable to them, Halas and Marshall decided to bring the goalposts from the back of the end zone to the front of the end zone. That would create more placekicking. They decided to allow passing from any point behind the line of scrimmage, and they decided to bring the ball in 10 yards from the sidelines so there would be running room for the backs.

These changes produced field goals, more passes and more points and—no, not incidentally—more interest in the game.

I was not there when they made these changes but started looking at their game a short while afterward.

The first one was in the Polo Grounds, New York, when the Giants of Steve Owen shut out the Packers of Green Bay 10-0. The year was 1937.

So, that's what this team encompasses—the period from 1937 through 1982, 10 years as a pure fan and the last 35, as a sportswriter. Forgive me if I also want to put No. 14, Ward Cuff, on my team, for there was never a greater twosome in any backfield than Ward Cuff and Tuffy Leemans of the N.Y. Giants in the late '30s and early '40s, with, of course, Nello Falaschi throwing the blocks for them. They were my guys.

They do not make it, either.

Without further ado, the running backs must be Jim Brown and O.J. Simpson.

They did more, for a longer period of time, than any of my personal favorites. You would have needed the U.S. Marines, with a slight assist from the Guardian Angels, to even slow them down.

Actually, it's not easy picking any all-time pro team. The game has changed so much over the years.

Face masks? A simple piece of equipment, right? They didn't use them until 1950. Free substitutions? They tried it during World War II because there weren't enough players to go around, but, again, not until 1950—after a one-year trial in 1949—did this become an official part of the game.

We had two leagues back in 1946—the old reliable NFL and an upstart league named the All-America Conference, which was formed by a Chicago newspaperman named Arch Ward. And, it wasn't until 1946 that black athletes became a permanent part of the scene in pro football. Talk about prejudice, black players had been unofficially barred from the game since the early 1930s. In '46, the new Cleveland Browns of the All-America Football Conference signed fullback Marion Motley (I want to put him on my team, too) and guard Bill Willis, while the NFL Los Angeles Rams signed fullback Kenny Washington and end Woody Strode.

Then we had Joe Namath's League—the American Football League—come along and stir things up in the late 1960s, and we have seen the World Football League and now the United States Football League come into being.

So, the old game has had a crazy, crazy history, and I hope you'll forgive my four-year blackout from 1933 through 1936 when I had absolutely no knowledge of the NFL whatever.

My first recollection is of Don Hutson running those bizarre pass patterns for the Green Bay Packers in the late 1930s. They weren't even known as pass patterns. It was just a lot of zigging and zagging, stopping and starting that the brilliant pass catcher of the Green Bay Packers did that nobody else was capable of doing.

He makes the team—as my No. 1 wide receiver. Incredibly enough, Hutson's statistics have stood the test of time. He played 11 years and caught 488 passes for 8,010 yards. He averaged 16.4 yards per catch and scored 99 touchdowns. The amazing thing about it all is that you knew the Packers were going to throw the ball to him, first from Arnie Herber and then the even more famous combination of Isbell-to-Hutson (Cecil Isbell, by name), and nobody could stop them. The Packers were a decade ahead of their time.

So, Hutson goes out on one flank and Raymond Berry of Baltimore fame goes out on the other. The thing about Berry is that he did not look like a football player. He looked more like a center for the Oshawa High School basketball team. Or maybe the chemistry teacher. But he was a student of the game and he was intense and he would beat you with his mind

(continued on page 190)

OFFENSE		DEFENSE	
TE	Kellen Winslow	L	Deacon Jones
L	Jim Parker	L	Gino Marchetti
L	Forrest Gregg	L	Bob Lilly
L	Jim Ringo	L	Joe Greene
L	Ron Yary	LB	Dick Butkus
C	Bulldog Turner	LB	Joe Schmidt
FL	Don Hutson	LB	Ted Hendricks
FL	Raymond Berry	DB	Herb Adderley
QB	John Unitas	DB	Larry Wilson
RB	Jim Brown	DB	Paul Krause
RB	O.J. Simpson	DB	Cliff Harris

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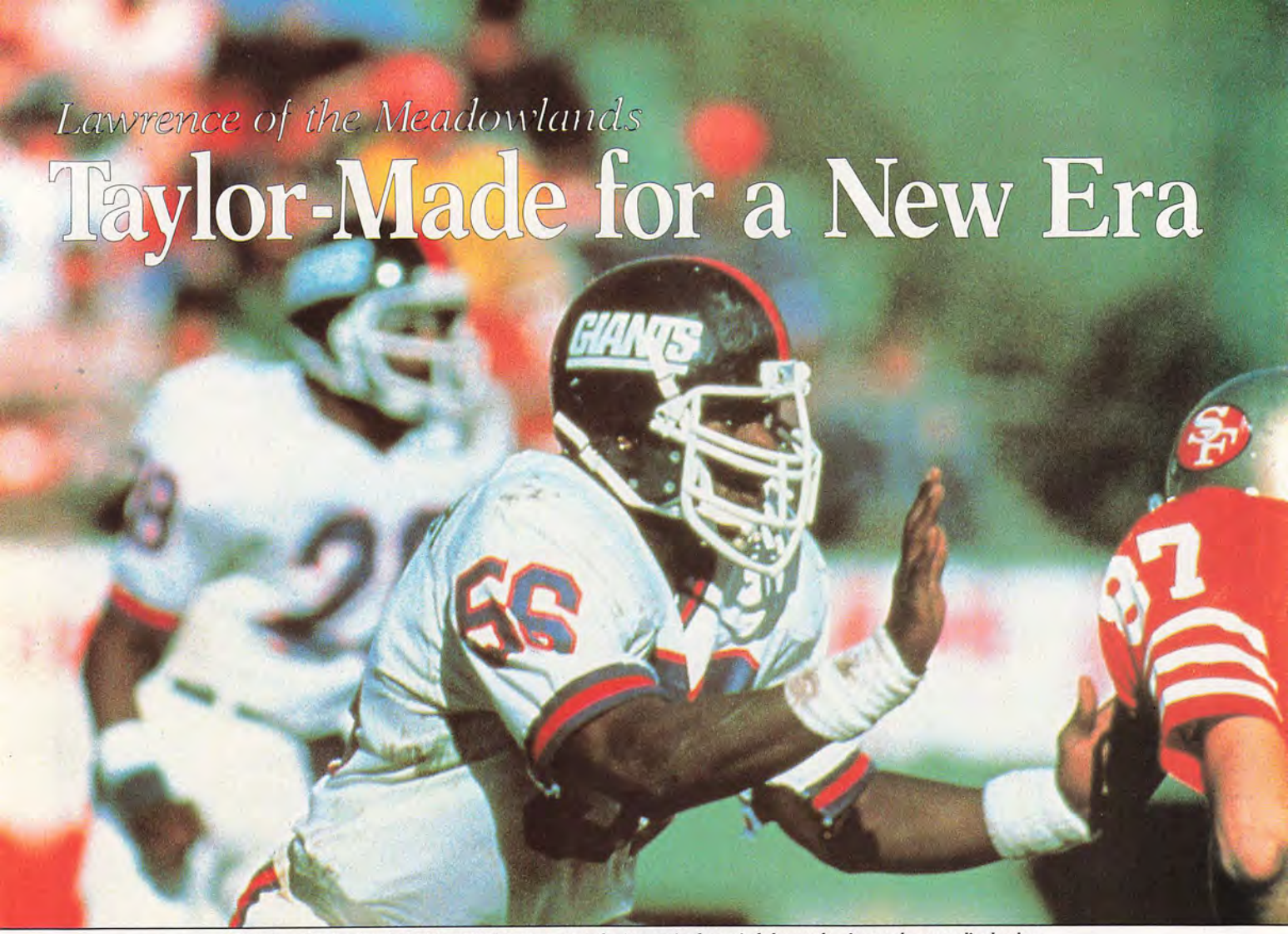
Lawrence of the Meadowlands

Taylor-Made for a New Era



Lawrence Taylor is admirably suited to carry out the increasingly varied demands of a modern pro linebacker.

by Pete Alfano

It was a brawny young man with a high-pitched voice and a haircut that looked like a freshly mowed lawn who first brought attention to the linebacker position.

Even Sam Huff's name seemed suited for the job. It rhymed with gruff and tough, which are essential ingredients for a good linebacker.

Huff wore No. 70 when he played for the New York Giants, and every running back in the National Football League saw that number in his sleep. Especially Jim Brown, perhaps the best running back of all. Every time the Giants and Cleveland Browns met, Huff spent the afternoon playing the role of Brown's shadow.

That was in the mid- and late-50s when their matchup fueled what was already pro football's hottest rivalry. Huff showed that a linebacker could be more than a second defense against the run.

Given his size and agility for those times, he was able to move from his spot in the middle to plug holes anywhere along the defensive line and to help seal the corners. By keying on the opposition's best ball carrier, Huff could almost single-handedly stop a running attack.

Critics claim that he was never as good as the New York media made him out to be, but nonetheless, Huff started a trend in the NFL. He was followed by Dick Butkus of the Bears and Jack Lambert of the Steelers as the glamour players at the linebacker position. All were bold and reckless; each tackle was a painful experience for a running back.

And as the linebacker's reputation grew, even outsiders tried to describe what it took to be the best. A sports psychologist working for the San Diego Chargers said that a linebacker was like a paid assassin—cold and detached, a hitman.

And as running backs got bigger and faster, linebackers did, too. As offenses became more sophisticated, the linebacker's responsibilities grew.

His voice is soft and pleasant, not at all indicative of the way he plays. He doesn't wear No. 70 but No. 56 instead, although it is still the blue and white uniform of the New York Giants. More than a quarter of a century after Sam Huff played his first pro game, a Giants' linebacker again is setting a trend. His name is Lawrence Taylor.

He is 6-3 and weighs 240 pounds, as big as defensive linemen in Huff's day. He runs 40 yards in 4.6 seconds. That's as fast as most running backs in Huff's day. In only two years, Taylor has established himself as perhaps the best linebacker in the NFL and potentially, the best ever.

Taylor is a shy, basically modest man although he says, "I want to be the best one who ever played this game."

The North Carolina All-American burst on the scene in 1981 when he became the Giants' first-round draft pick and the second player chosen overall. Despite a history of first-round selections who quickly faded into obscurity, despite their need for offensive help, and despite having an experienced and excellent linebacking corps, the Giants had made up their mind to take Taylor.

"It was not a difficult decision," says Giants General Manager George Young. "You can't pass up a guy who you think will be a Pro Bowler for 10 years. You can't tell yourself you need help at another position more."

After two years, Taylor has helped the Giants regain some of their past glory—at least on defense. As a rookie, he helped take them to their first playoff appearance since 1963. He was Rookie of the Year and Defensive Player of the Year in 1981. He has played in two Pro Bowls.

"Look at it on paper, and you wouldn't believe a weak-side linebacker could affect a

defense so much," says Brian Kelley, Taylor's fellow Giant linebacker. "But with Lawrence out there, he completely changes the other team's offense."

"I didn't think a linebacker could make such an impact on a team," says quarterback Phil Simms.

Taylor is the prototype of the modern NFL linebacker. In an era when offenses have become more sophisticated and use the short passing game as a type of running attack, the linebacker must now combine the skills of a lineman and defensive back. He must be quick and strong, able to react in a fraction of a second.

He must be able to cover fleet running backs on deep patterns; he must be able to rush the passer on the blitz; and he still must be able to plug those holes against the run like Sam Huff used to do. A linebacker may very well be the best athlete on a football field.

"The funny thing is I really wasn't interested in the position in college," says Taylor. "I was a defensive end and in the beginning, a tight end and center. Playing linebacker is like being two different people."

As Taylor was shuttled from one position to another in college, he never established himself as outstanding. He was considered an undisciplined individual player. But when he was moved to defensive end in his junior year, he began to settle down.

"I began to get my act together," says Taylor. "When people start noticing you, that gives you something to live up to. I didn't want to let anyone down, especially myself."

His senior year was memorable. Taylor led North Carolina to an 11-1 record. He dominated opposing teams with his intimidating style. Instead of playing strictly as a down lineman, he was allowed to roam oftener, to pick and choose his openings. In the structured world of football, he was free to improvise.

Only Hugh Green of Pittsburgh received more acclaim on defense.

"I think it's a compliment when people compared me to someone like Hugh Green," says Taylor. "He played great all four seasons. I had only one good one."

"It was good enough to sway the Giants, who offered Taylor a multiyear contract for $750,000. "I saw him play against Clemson," says Young, "and he was the most dominating player I've ever seen. This guy's a blitzer, a pass rusher, and pass rushers are dominant people."

Despite the confidence Taylor had in himself, he knew his status would put a great deal of pressure on him. When he read before the draft that several Giants would lead a player revolt if he received a contract as big as was rumored, Taylor sent a telegram to Coach Ray Perkins, asking the Giants not to draft him. He was reassured by management and some of the players, however, that he was wanted and needed.

"I heard about the pressure of playing in New York," says Taylor, "and when you come to this kind of area as a high pick, you are expected to perform. Here, if you have one bad game or one bad year, they say you're washed up. So you can't allow yourself to listen to the fans or the media. I play for the New York Giants and for Lawrence Taylor, no one else."

It was Taylor's marvelous natural ability that helped him make such a smooth transformation from the college to the pro game. Also, the addition of Taylor enabled the Giants to switch from the traditional 4-3 defense to a 3-4. Using four linebackers helped in pass coverage, especially since NFL rules were changed to allow the offense more freedom. Four linebackers also helped a defense string out running plays and keep those fast backs inside.

But the drawback of a 3-4 is that a defense's pass rush suffers. And given time, most quarterbacks can find an open receiver no matter how well the linebackers and secondary have the area covered. This is where Taylor excels. From his right linebacker position, he has the speed and strength to rush past offensive linemen, overpower the blocking back and pressure the quarterback into passing too soon. Even better, Taylor often has been able to prevent the quarterback from passing at all. In his rookie year, for example, he had 10½ sacks, a total worthy of any down lineman.

"His greatest asset is his acceleration," says Bill Parcells, former defensive coordinator who was named head coach of the Giants when Perkins took the job at Alabama last December.

Beasley Reece, the Giants' safety, is equally impressed with Taylor's demeanor. "His attitude kind of turns us on," says Reece. "Lawrence never said this because I think he really is a humble guy, but I don't think he believes anybody can block him. The way he rushes, he'll let a guy hit him square in the chest, then just overpower him."

Taylor acknowledges that the 3-4 defense gives him more leeway. The corridor he must cover on pass defense—his so-called weakness—is greatly reduced. "I played the 4-3 defense in the Pro Bowl," he says, "and I felt awkward. You have more man-to-man coverage. And you don't get into the game as much.

"With the 3-4, I don't have as much area to cover. And I've got more help. I can rush, drop back, chase people and take more chances. The way the rules are nowadays, there seems to be more high-scoring games, and the only way a quarterback can miss is if he throws a bad pass. That's why I prefer the 3-4."

Taylor's linebacking buddies on the Giants are Brad Van Pelt, Harry Carson and Kelley. Their experience in the NFL totals 27 years and it has helped to speed Taylor's development. His abundance of talent, however, has helped to prolong their careers. Carson, especially, enjoyed a rejuvenation in 1981 and '82. He and Taylor became fast friends.

Despite the initial success and the impact he has had on the NFL, Taylor is aware he has weaknesses to shore up. He is only now developing his skills as a pass defender. "Lawrence is still sometimes lost on pass defense," says Parcells. "But he never was in pass coverage in college. He's as fast as he's ever going to be so he has to develop anticipation." On Thanksgiving Day last season against the Detroit Lions, Taylor intercepted a pass and sprinted almost the length of the field for what turned out to be the winning touchdown. He is learning fast.

"I have to work harder," he says. "I have to improve my overall strength and the mental part of the game. I still have to work hard."

Taylor has remained low-key about the recognition he has received. He even turned down several speaking engagements and endorsement opportunities after his rookie season so as not to appear to be too cocky.

And as much as he says he enjoys playing in the New York-area spotlight, he is not entirely thrilled with making it his permanent home. Taylor and his wife Linda had a home built in Saddle River, N.J., but a two-foot snowstorm last winter discouraged the couple.

"I'll stay here for now, but I don't know if I can handle the weather," he says. "It doesn't snow much in Chapel Hill."

Taylor was born in Williamsburg, Va. He is from a lower-income family and one of three children. His father is a shipyard worker and his mother runs a day-care center. With some of his bonus money, Taylor purchased a new home for his parents.

He leaned toward baseball as he was growing up. But when Taylor went to North Carolina, it was evident he would be steered into the football program. Even now, Tar Heel fans understand that they may have been watching one of a kind during Taylor's final year there. "He has things you don't coach," says Mel Foels, North Carolina's linebacker coach.

What Taylor has become is the model against which all other linebackers are judged. It seems to be in the Giant tradition.

END

The Giants' Taylor: quintessential linebacker.

(Predictions continued)
offense that was second in the NFL in point production behind San Diego. The Raiders return a defense that led the league in sacks and forcing turnovers.

Several new faces hold the key for Denver to rebound from a disappointing season. John Elway, Stanford's All-America quarterback, should be an immediate factor for the Broncos offensively, and four defensive backs taken in the draft should strengthen a secondary that allowed an average of 248 passing yards per game. Denver probably is still a year away from the playoffs but should improve enough to lock up third place in the division and surprise a few playoff-bound teams.

In Kansas City, the quarterback job will be up for grabs under new Coach John Mackovic, who will emphasize the passing game. Penn State rookie Todd Blackledge will be in the thick of the battle with Bill Kennedy and Steve Fuller. The Chiefs need improvement at running back. The defense is led by ends Art Still and Mike Bell.

The future for Seattle looks bright under new Coach Chuck Knox, but he will need time for rebuilding. Offensively, the Seahawks will benefit from the addition of Penn State running back Curt Warner, and Steve Largent remains a threat at receiver. Kenny Easley heads a secondary that was third best in the NFL a year ago.

NFC EAST

1. **Washington**
2. **Dallas**
3. **New York Giants**
4. **St. Louis**
5. **Philadelphia**

After winning its first NFL championship in 40 years, Washington is hungry for its second. As long as the Hogs continue clearing the way for John Riggins, and Joe Theismann finds Art Monk and Charlie Brown on the long-yardage downs, the Redskins should win the NFC and make a return trip to the Super Bowl.

End Dexter Manley and free safety Mark Miller are among the leaders in a defense that was one of the stingiest in the league last season. Kicker Mark Moseley, voted the league's Most Valuable Player in one poll, returns to provide the difference in the close ones.

As usual, the Dallas Cowboys look like bona fide Super Bowl contenders. They have a seasoned quarterback in Danny White, one of the league's most dangerous running backs in Tony Dorsett, a great receiving unit headed by Drew Pearson and Tony Hill, and a tenacious defense led by tackle Randy White and cornerback Everson Walls. But the question remains: Why have the Cowboys lost three straight NFC title games? The rest of the league hopes they don't find the answer.

The New York Giants will contend for a playoff berth under new Coach Bill Parcells. Quarterbacking duties will be in good hands with either Scott Brunner or Phil Simms calling the shots. Butch Woolfolk, who led the club in rushing as a rookie, and Rob Carpenter provide strength at running back. Top draft choice Terry Kinard will boost a secondary that was the only weak link in a defense headed by Lawrence Taylor and Harry Carson.

The St. Louis Cardinals, who made the playoffs a year ago due to the strike-shortened season, are improved but at best a long shot to make the playoffs. Neil Lomax has the potential to develop into one of the NFL's best passers, and Ottis Anderson is a standout running back.

The once high-flying Philadelphia Eagles will be grounded in the Eastern Division cellar. Big-play men Wilbert Montgomery and Harold Carmichael are still around on offense, as is Ron Jaworski, who must reduce his number of interceptions for the Eagles to increase their scoring output.

NFC CENTRAL

1. **Green Bay**
2. **Minnesota**
3. **Chicago**
4. **Tampa Bay**
5. **Detroit**

With an improving defense and a volatile offense, Green Bay will capture the Central Division title. Lynn Dickey has two speedsters to throw to in James Lofton and John Jefferson. A healthy Eddie Lee Ivery, the running back who led the conference a year ago with nine touchdowns, gives the Packer attack much-needed balance. Green Bay will benefit from the addition of Tim Lewis, defensive back from the University of Pittsburgh, the Packers' No. 1 draft choice.

The Minnesota Vikings are strong enough to figure in the playoff picture. Gifted wide receiver Ahmad Rashad retired, but quarterback Tommy Kramer can still look for Sammy White deep and Ted Brown and Joe Senser short. Defense is the biggest question for Bud Grant's Vikings.

Chicago is the darkhorse team in the NFC Central. Jim McMahon made an impressive professional debut last year. This season, he'll have world-class sprinter Willie Gault, first-round draft pick from Tennessee, as a primary receiver. Walter Payton, for years the Bears' only claim to fame, returns at running back. If the defense can play as well as last year, the Bears should be regarded as contenders for a wild-card berth in the playoffs.

Tampa Bay is also a contender for a playoff berth. Defense is still the strong suit for John McKay's Buccaneers. Led by Pro Bowlers Lee Roy Selmon and Hugh Green, the Tampa Bay defenders held opponents to less than 275 yards per game. Despite having one of the strongest arms in the game, quarterback Doug Williams, who rated 13th among NFC counterparts in passing efficiency, needs to cut back on interceptions.

Detroit must improve its offense to finish above .500. The Lions were 22nd in total offense last season, although Billy Sims finished as the second-best rusher in the conference. Quarterback Gary Danielson had too many interceptions in '82.

NFC WEST

1. **San Francisco**
2. **Los Angeles Rams**
3. **Atlanta**
4. **New Orleans**

San Francisco has recovered from post-Super Bowl blues of a year ago and appears ready to challenge the Redskins for supremacy in the NFC. The 49er offense will be more potent than last season when it ranked third best in the league. NFC statistical leaders Joe Montana (passing yardage) and Dwight Clark (receptions) head the offense, which was bolstered by the additon of running backs Wendell Tyler, acquired from the Rams, and Roger Craig, first-round draft selection from Nebraska.

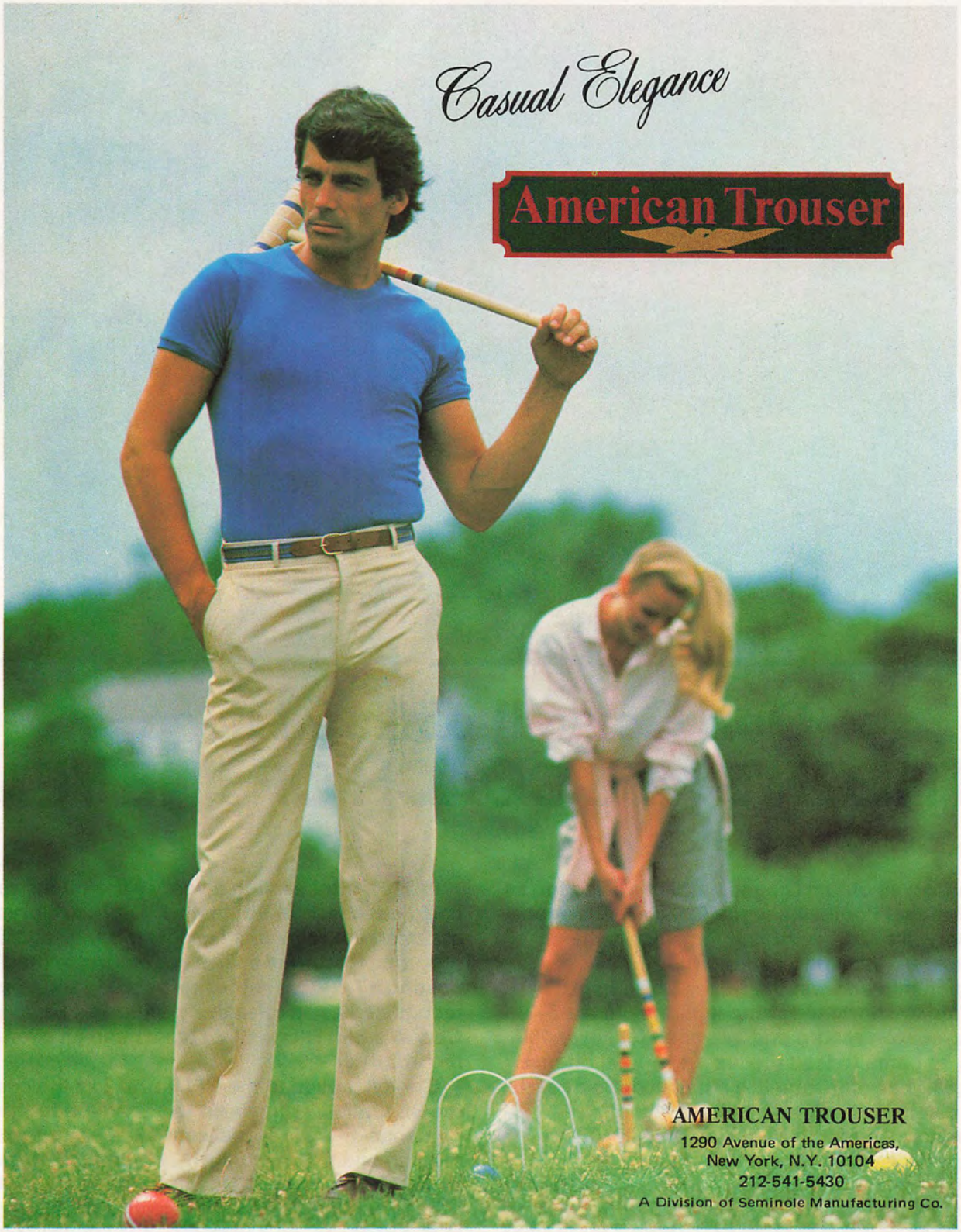
The 49ers' next four draft picks were aimed at improving the defense, which ranked 21st in the league, allowing more than three touchdowns and 337 yards per game.

New Ram Coach John Robinson inherited a defense that ranked 27th in the NFL last year. Robinson is a winner, though, and will turn the Rams' fortunes around almost immediately. Vince Ferragamo will be the Ram signal caller. Bert Jones retired. Tyler is gone, but SMU All-America running back Eric Dickerson has arrived to fill the gap. If Robinson can tighten up the defense, he'll have the Rams in the playoffs.

Atlanta also has a new coach. Dan Henning is bringing the one-back offense with him from Washington. He enjoyed success with it as the Redskins' offensive coordinator, and it appears to be tailor-made for the leagues' top all-purpose back, William Andrews. Henning used the Falcons' first four draft choices to boost the defense. If the defense is less generous and quarterback Steve Bartkowski reduces his interceptions, the Falcons not only should be in the playoffs, but also may be a sleeper in the race for the Super Bowl.

New Orleans almost reached the playoffs last season. The Saints are poised for another year of marked improvement. Their defense was the fifth best in the NFL in '82 and should be equally stingy this year. If Bum Phillips can squeeze another season out of 37-year-old quarterback Ken Stabler and George Rogers goes over 1000 yards rushing, the Saints could go marching into the playoffs for the first time in the franchise's history.

(continued)



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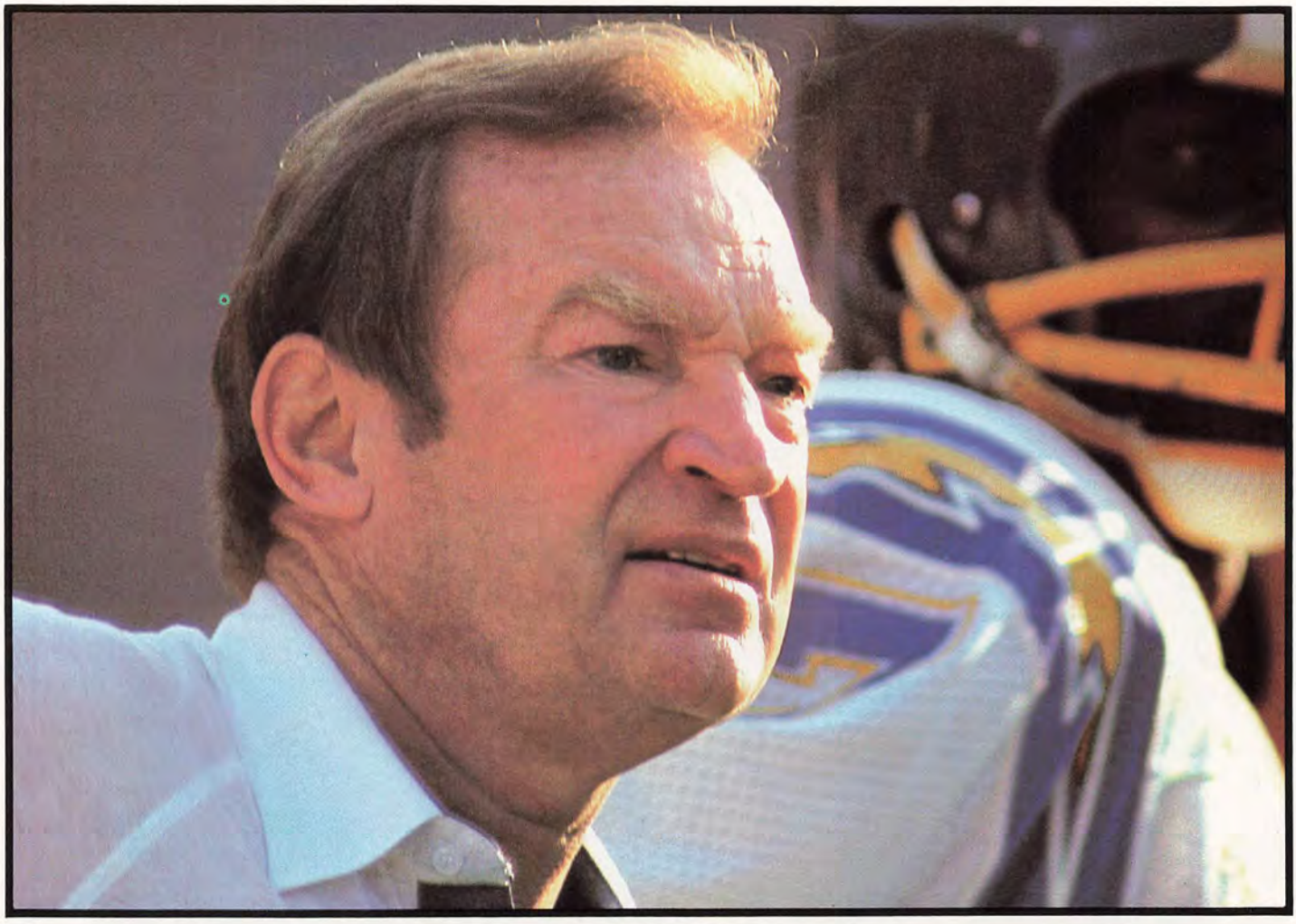


Don Coryell of San Diego
ATHLON'S NFL COACH OF THE YEAR

(Predictions continued)

Don Coryell of San Diego is *Athlon*'s selection as 1983 National Football League Coach of the Year.

In Coryell's sixth season at San Diego, the Chargers are picked to capture the AFC championship and win the Super Bowl. In last year's strike-shortened campaign, they had a 6–3 regular-season record and averaged just over 450 yards per game to lead the league in total offense.

The 58-year-old Coryell is a native of Seattle. He was a defensive back at the University of Washington, earning a B.A. degree in 1950 and a master's degree one year later.

Coryell's first coaching job was as an assistant at Punahou Academy in Honolulu. In 1957, he became head coach at Whittier College. During a three-year tenure, he led the Poets to a 23–5–1 record, three Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference championships and No. 1 ranking among U.S. small colleges in total offense and passing in 1959.

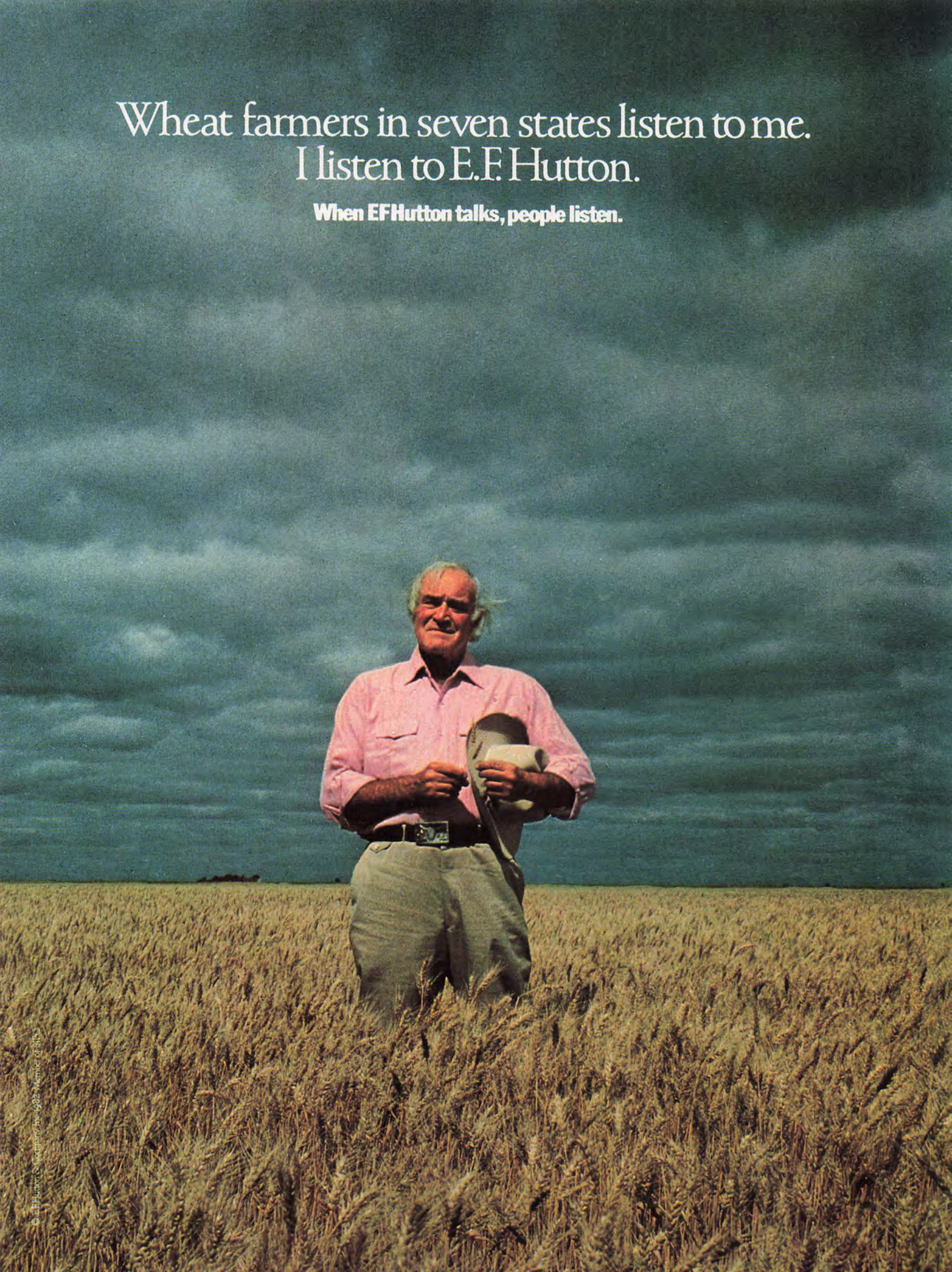
In 1961, after serving a year as the offensive backfield coach at Southern California, Coryell assumed the reins of a lackluster San Diego State program. He turned the Aztecs around immediately, posting a 7–2–1 mark the first year. He soon became recognized as an offensive genius. In 11 seasons, Coryell's San Diego State teams had an overall record of 104–19–2.

Coryell moved to the NFL in 1972 as the coach of the St. Louis Cardinals. In five years under his guidance, the Cardinals went 42–27–1 and won a division championship in 1974 and 1975. He was named NFL and NFC Coach of the Year in '74.

In 1978, Coryell became coach of the Chargers. In five seasons, he has guided the Chargers to four consecutive playoff berths, three division championships (1979–81) and an overall record of 47–22.

His composite mark as a head coach in the NFL is 89–49–1. In college, it was 127–24–3.

END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- The original King Cab: up to 9 cubic feet of extra inner space for safe storage and jump seats.

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- Unique grille and bumper designs: sleek in 2WD, rugged-looking in 4WD.
- Bucket seats with lateral support for extra comfort, control.
- Cloth upholstery on seats and doors; full carpeting.
- AM/FM multiplex stereo and sliding rear window—standard.
- Power-steering & Sun roof—standard.

††Not available in Calif. and high-altitude areas.

ONE HECK-OF-A 4 X 4.

- On-demand 4-wheel drive. Shift from 2WD to 4WD at the flick of a stick. Front hubs lock automatically. Not in Toyota.
- Highest minimum ground clearance. Higher than any other compact pickup.
- Wide clearance independent front suspension for a smooth, level ride.

ONE HUNK-OF-A BODY. Double-wall construction

- Double steel walls (except MPG Standard). Not in Toyota.
- Heavy-Duty Long Bed hauls more than Toyota, Chevy S-10, Ford Ranger... and many full-size pickups.

ONE HECK-OF-A SAVER. Nissan MPG Standard.††

EST HWY **43** | **31** EPA EST MPG* **$5,995†**

*Use estimated mpg for comparison, with standard 5-speed. Actual mileage may differ depending on speed, trip length and weather. Hwy mileage will probably be less.**

- Special 2-liter NAPS-Z engine** powers Nissan MPG Standard Truck to the highest truck gas mileage.
- Every Nissan truck gives you solid value for your money, with extra features at no extra cost.

NISSAN WE ARE DRIVEN DATSUN

NISSAN 4WD KING CAB 29 | 21* EST HWY EPA EST MPG

NISSAN NISSAN

1983 NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE TEAM SCHEDULES

(All times local. All games Sunday unless noted otherwise.)

AMERICAN FOOTBALL CONFERENCE

EAST

Baltimore Colts
S. 4 at New England–1:00
S. 11 DENVER–4:00
S. 18 at Buffalo–1:00
S. 25 CHICAGO–2:00
O. 2 at Cincinnati–1:00
O. 9 NEW ENGLAND–2:00
O. 16 BUFFALO–2:00
O. 23 MIAMI–2:00
O. 30 at Philadelphia–1:00
N. 6 at New York Jets–4:00
N. 13 PITTSBURGH–2:00
N. 20 at Miami–1:00
N. 27 at Cleveland–1:00
D. 4 NEW YORK JETS–4:00
D. 11 at Denver–2:00
D. 18 HOUSTON–2:00

Buffalo Bills
S. 4 MIAMI–1:00
S. 11 at Cincinnati–1:00
S. 18 BALTIMORE–1:00
S. 25 HOUSTON–1:00
O. 3 NEW YORK JETS (Mon.)–9:00
O. 9 at Miami–1:00
O. 16 at Baltimore–2:00
O. 23 NEW ENGLAND–1:00
O. 30 NEW ORLEANS–1:00
N. 6 at New England–1:00
N. 13 at New York Jets–1:00
N. 20 LOS ANGELES RAIDERS–1:00
N. 27 at Los Angeles Rams–1:00
D. 4 at Kansas City–12:00
D. 11 SAN FRANCISCO–1:00
D. 18 at Atlanta–1:00

Miami Dolphins
S. 4 at Buffalo–1:00
S. 11 NEW ENGLAND–4:00
S. 19 at Los Angeles Raiders (Mon.)–6:00
S. 25 KANSAS CITY–1:00
O. 2 at New Orleans–3:00
O. 9 BUFFALO–1:00
O. 16 at New York Jets–1:00
O. 23 at Baltimore–2:00
O. 30 LOS ANGELES RAMS–1:00
N. 6 at San Francisco–1:00
N. 13 at New England–1:00
N. 20 BALTIMORE–1:00
N. 28 CINCINNATI (Mon.)–9:00
D. 4 at Houston–12:00
D. 10 ATLANTA (Sat.)–4:00
D. 16 NEW YORK JETS (Fri.)–9:00

New England Patriots
S. 4 BALTIMORE–1:00
S. 11 at Miami–4:00
S. 18 NEW YORK JETS–1:00
S. 25 at Pittsburgh–1:00
O. 2 SAN FRANCISCO–1:00
O. 9 at Baltimore–2:00
O. 16 SAN DIEGO–1:00
O. 23 at Buffalo–1:00
O. 30 at Atlanta–1:00
N. 6 BUFFALO–1:00
N. 13 MIAMI–1:00
N. 20 CLEVELAND–1:00
N. 27 at New York Jets–1:00
D. 4 NEW ORLEANS–1:00
D. 11 at Los Angeles Rams–1:00
D. 18 at Seattle–1:00

New York Jets
S. 4 at San Diego–1:00
S. 11 SEATTLE–4:00
S. 18 at New England–1:00
S. 25 LOS ANGELES RAMS–4:00
O. 3 at Buffalo (Mon.)–9:00
O. 9 at Cleveland–1:00
O. 16 MIAMI–1:00
O. 23 ATLANTA–1:00
O. 30 at San Francisco–1:00
N. 6 BALTIMORE–4:00
N. 13 BUFFALO–1:00
N. 21 at New Orleans (Mon.)–8:00
N. 27 NEW ENGLAND–1:00
D. 4 at Baltimore–4:00
D. 10 PITTSBURGH (Sat.)–12:30
D. 16 at Miami (Fri.)–9:00

CENTRAL

Cincinnati Bengals
S. 4 LOS ANGELES RAIDERS–1:00
S. 11 BUFFALO–1:00
S. 15 at Cleveland (Thurs.)–8:30
S. 25 at Tampa Bay–1:00
O. 2 BALTIMORE–1:00
O. 10 PITTSBURGH (Mon.)–9:00
O. 16 at Denver–2:00
O. 23 CLEVELAND–1:00
O. 30 GREEN BAY–4:00
N. 6 at Houston–12:00
N. 13 at Kansas City–12:00
N. 20 HOUSTON–1:00
N. 28 at Miami (Mon.)–9:00
D. 4 at Pittsburgh–1:00
D. 11 DETROIT–1:00
D. 17 at Minnesota (Sat.)–3:00

Cleveland Browns
S. 4 MINNESOTA–1:00
S. 11 at Detroit–1:00
S. 15 CINCINNATI (Thurs.)–8:30
S. 25 at San Diego–1:00
O. 2 SEATTLE–1:00
O. 9 NEW YORK JETS–1:00
O. 16 at Pittsburgh–1:00
O. 23 at Cincinnati–1:00
O. 30 HOUSTON–1:00
N. 6 at Green Bay (Milw.)–12:00
N. 13 TAMPA BAY–1:00
N. 20 at New England–1:00
N. 27 BALTIMORE–1:00
D. 4 at Denver–2:00
D. 11 at Houston–12:00
D. 18 PITTSBURGH–1:00

Houston Oilers
S. 4 GREEN BAY–12:00
S. 11 at Los Angeles Raiders–1:00
S. 18 PITTSBURGH–12:00
S. 25 at Buffalo–1:00
O. 2 at Pittsburgh–1:00
O. 9 DENVER–12:00
O. 16 at Minnesota–12:00
O. 23 KANSAS CITY–12:00
O. 30 at Cleveland–1:00
N. 6 CINCINNATI–12:00
N. 13 DETROIT–12:00
N. 20 at Cincinnati–1:00
N. 27 at Tampa Bay–1:00
D. 4 MIAMI–12:00
D. 11 CLEVELAND–12:00
D. 18 at Baltimore–2:00

Pittsburgh Steelers
S. 4 DENVER–1:00
S. 11 at Green Bay–12:00
S. 18 at Houston–12:00
S. 25 NEW ENGLAND–1:00
O. 2 HOUSTON–1:00
O. 10 at Cincinnati (Mon.)–9:00
O. 16 CLEVELAND–1:00
O. 23 at Seattle–1:00
O. 30 TAMPA BAY–1:00
N. 6 SAN DIEGO–1:00
N. 13 at Baltimore–2:00
N. 20 MINNESOTA–1:00
N. 24 at Detroit (Thurs.)–12:30
D. 4 CINCINNATI–1:00
D. 10 at New York Jets (Sat.)–12:30
D. 18 at Cleveland–1:00

Kansas City Chiefs
S. 4 SEATTLE–3:00
S. 12 SAN DIEGO (Mon.)–8:00
S. 18 at Washington–1:00
S. 25 at Miami–1:00
O. 2 ST. LOUIS–3:00
O. 9 at Los Angeles Raiders–1:00
O. 16 NEW YORK GIANTS–3:00
O. 23 at Houston–12:00
O. 30 at Denver–2:00
N. 6 LOS ANGELES RAIDERS–12:00
N. 13 CINCINNATI–12:00
N. 20 at Dallas–3:00
N. 27 at Seattle–1:00
D. 4 BUFFALO–12:00
D. 11 at San Diego–1:00
D. 18 DENVER–12:00

Los Angeles Raiders
S. 4 at Cincinnati–1:00
S. 11 HOUSTON–1:00
S. 19 MIAMI (Mon.)–6:00
S. 25 at Denver–2:00
O. 2 at Washington–1:00
O. 9 KANSAS CITY–1:00
O. 16 at Seattle–1:00
O. 23 at Dallas–8:00
O. 30 SEATTLE–1:00
N. 6 at Kansas City–12:00
N. 13 DENVER–1:00
N. 20 at Buffalo–1:00
N. 27 NEW YORK GIANTS–1:00
D. 1 at San Diego (Thurs.)–6:00
D. 11 ST. LOUIS–1:00
D. 18 SAN DIEGO–1:00

San Diego Chargers
S. 4 NEW YORK JETS–1:00
S. 12 at Kansas City (Mon.)–8:00
S. 18 at Seattle–1:00
S. 25 CLEVELAND–1:00
O. 2 at New York Giants–4:00
O. 9 SEATTLE–1:00
O. 16 at New England–1:00
O. 23 at Denver–2:00
O. 31 WASHINGTON (Mon.)–6:00
N. 6 at Pittsburgh–1:00
N. 13 DALLAS–1:00
N. 20 at St. Louis–12:00
N. 27 DENVER–1:00
D. 1 L.A. RAIDERS (Thurs.)–6:00
D. 11 KANSAS CITY–1:00
D. 18 at Los Angeles Raiders–1:00

Seattle Seahawks
S. 4 at Kansas City–3:00
S. 11 at New York Jets–4:00
S. 18 SAN DIEGO–1:00
S. 25 WASHINGTON–1:00
O. 2 at Cleveland–1:00
O. 9 at San Diego–1:00
O. 16 LOS ANGELES RAIDERS–1:00
O. 23 PITTSBURGH–1:00
O. 30 at Los Angeles Raiders–1:00
N. 6 DENVER–1:00
N. 13 at St. Louis–12:00
N. 20 at Denver–2:00
N. 27 KANSAS CITY–1:00
D. 4 DALLAS–1:00
D. 11 at New York Giants–1:00
D. 18 NEW ENGLAND–1:00

WEST

Denver Broncos
S. 4 at Pittsburgh–1:00
S. 11 at Baltimore–4:00
S. 18 PHILADELPHIA–2:00
S. 25 LOS ANGELES RAIDERS–2:00
O. 2 at Chicago–12:00
O. 9 at Houston–12:00
O. 16 CINCINNATI–2:00
O. 23 SAN DIEGO–2:00
O. 30 KANSAS CITY–2:00
N. 6 at Seattle–1:00
N. 13 at Los Angeles Raiders–1:00
N. 20 SEATTLE–2:00
N. 27 at San Diego–1:00
D. 4 CLEVELAND–2:00
D. 11 BALTIMORE–2:00
D. 18 at Kansas City–12:00

Kansas City Chiefs
S. 4 SEATTLE–3:00
S. 12 SAN DIEGO (Mon.)–8:00
S. 18 at Washington–1:00
S. 25 at Miami–1:00
O. 2 ST. LOUIS–3:00
O. 9 at Los Angeles Raiders–1:00
O. 16 NEW YORK GIANTS–3:00
O. 23 at Houston–12:00
O. 30 at Denver–2:00
N. 6 LOS ANGELES RAIDERS–12:00
N. 13 CINCINNATI–12:00
N. 20 at Dallas–3:00
N. 27 at Seattle–1:00
D. 4 BUFFALO–12:00
D. 11 at San Diego–1:00
D. 18 DENVER–12:00

San Diego Chargers
S. 4 NEW YORK JETS–1:00
S. 12 at Kansas City (Mon.)–8:00
S. 18 at Seattle–1:00
S. 25 CLEVELAND–1:00
O. 2 at New York Giants–4:00
O. 9 SEATTLE–1:00
O. 16 at New England–1:00
O. 23 at Denver–2:00
O. 31 WASHINGTON (Mon.)–6:00
N. 6 at Pittsburgh–1:00
N. 13 DALLAS–1:00
N. 20 at St. Louis–12:00
N. 27 DENVER–1:00
D. 1 L.A. RAIDERS (Thurs.)–6:00
D. 11 KANSAS CITY–1:00
D. 18 at Los Angeles Raiders–1:00

Seattle Seahawks
S. 4 at Kansas City–3:00
S. 11 at New York Jets–4:00
S. 18 SAN DIEGO–1:00
S. 25 WASHINGTON–1:00
O. 2 at Cleveland–1:00
O. 9 at San Diego–1:00
O. 16 LOS ANGELES RAIDERS–1:00
O. 23 PITTSBURGH–1:00
O. 30 at Los Angeles Raiders–1:00
N. 6 DENVER–1:00
N. 13 at St. Louis–12:00
N. 20 at Denver–2:00
N. 27 KANSAS CITY–1:00
D. 4 DALLAS–1:00
D. 11 at New York Giants–1:00
D. 18 NEW ENGLAND–1:00

NATIONAL FOOTBALL CONFERENCE

EAST

Dallas Cowboys
S. 5 at Washington (Mon.)–9:00
S. 11 at St. Louis–12:00
S. 18 NEW YORK GIANTS–3:00
S. 25 NEW ORLEANS–12:00
O. 2 at Minnesota–12:00
O. 9 TAMPA BAY–3:00
O. 16 at Philadelphia–4:00
O. 23 LOS ANGELES RAIDERS–8:00
O. 30 at New York Giants–1:00
N. 6 PHILADELPHIA–12:00
N. 13 at San Diego–1:00
N. 20 KANSAS CITY–3:00
N. 24 ST. LOUIS (Thurs.)–3:00
D. 4 at Seattle–1:00
D. 11 WASHINGTON–3:00
D. 19 at San Francisco (Mon.)–6:00

New York Giants
S. 4 LOS ANGELES RAMS–1:00
S. 11 at Atlanta–1:00
S. 18 at Dallas–3:00
S. 26 GREEN BAY (Mon.)–9:00
O. 2 SAN DIEGO–4:00
O. 9 PHILADELPHIA–4:00
O. 16 at Kansas City–3:00
O. 24 at St. Louis (Mon.)–8:00
O. 30 DALLAS–1:00
N. 7 at Detroit (Mon.)–9:00
N. 13 WASHINGTON–4:00
N. 20 at Philadelphia–1:00
N. 27 at Los Angeles Raiders–1:00
D. 4 ST. LOUIS–1:00
D. 11 SEATTLE–1:00
D. 17 at Washington (Sat.)–12:30

Philadelphia Eagles
S. 4 at San Francisco–1:00
S. 11 WASHINGTON–1:00
S. 18 at Denver–2:00
S. 25 ST. LOUIS–1:00
O. 2 at Atlanta–1:00
O. 9 at New York Giants–4:00
O. 16 DALLAS–4:00
O. 23 CHICAGO–1:00
O. 30 BALTIMORE–1:00
N. 6 at Dallas–12:00
N. 13 at Chicago–12:00
N. 20 NEW YORK GIANTS–1:00
N. 27 at Washington–1:00
D. 4 LOS ANGELES RAMS–1:00
D. 11 NEW ORLEANS–1:00
D. 18 at St. Louis–12:00

St. Louis Cardinals
S. 4 at New Orleans–12:00
S. 11 DALLAS–12:00
S. 18 SAN FRANCISCO–12:00
S. 25 at Philadelphia–1:00
O. 2 at Kansas City–3:00
O. 9 WASHINGTON–12:00
O. 16 at Tampa Bay–1:00
O. 24 NEW YORK GIANTS (Mon.)–8:00
O. 30 MINNESOTA–12:00
N. 6 at Washington–4:00
N. 13 SEATTLE–12:00
N. 20 SAN DIEGO–12:00
N. 24 at Dallas (Thurs.)–3:00
D. 4 at New York Giants–1:00
D. 11 at Los Angeles Raiders–1:00
D. 18 PHILADELPHIA–12:00

Washington Redskins
S. 5 DALLAS (Mon.)–9:00
S. 11 at Philadelphia–1:00
S. 18 KANSAS CITY–1:00
S. 25 at Seattle–1:00
O. 2 LOS ANGELES RAIDERS–1:00
O. 9 at St. Louis–12:00
O. 17 at Green Bay (Mon.)–8:00
O. 23 DETROIT–1:00
O. 31 at San Diego (Mon.)–6:00
N. 6 ST. LOUIS–4:00
N. 13 at New York Giants–4:00
N. 20 at Los Angeles Rams–1:00
N. 27 PHILADELPHIA–1:00
D. 4 ATLANTA–1:00
D. 11 at Dallas–3:00
D. 17 NEW YORK GIANTS (Sat.)–12:30

CENTRAL

Chicago Bears
S. 4 ATLANTA–12:00
S. 11 TAMPA BAY–12:00
S. 18 at New Orleans–12:00
S. 25 at Baltimore–2:00
O. 2 DENVER–12:00
O. 9 MINNESOTA–12:00
O. 16 at Detroit–1:00
O. 23 at Philadelphia–1:00
O. 30 DETROIT–12:00
N. 6 at Los Angeles Rams–1:00
N. 13 PHILADELPHIA–12:00
N. 20 at Tampa Bay–1:00
N. 27 SAN FRANCISCO–12:00
D. 4 at Green Bay–12:00
D. 11 at Minnesota–12:00
D. 18 GREEN BAY–12:00

Detroit Lions
S. 4 at Tampa Bay–1:00
S. 11 CLEVELAND–1:00
S. 18 ATLANTA–1:00
S. 25 at Minnesota–12:00
O. 2 at Los Angeles Rams–1:00
O. 9 GREEN BAY–1:00
O. 16 CHICAGO–1:00
O. 23 at Washington–1:00
O. 30 at Chicago–12:00
N. 7 NEW YORK GIANTS (Mon.)–9:00
N. 13 at Houston–12:00
N. 20 at Green Bay (Milw.)–12:00
N. 24 PITTSBURGH (Thurs.)–12:30
D. 5 MINNESOTA (Mon.)–9:00
D. 11 at Cincinnati–1:00
D. 18 TAMPA BAY–4:00

Green Bay Packers
S. 4 at Houston–12:00
S. 11 PITTSBURGH–12:00
S. 18 LOS ANGELES RAMS (Milw.)–12:00
S. 26 at New York Giants (Mon.)–9:00
O. 2 TAMPA BAY–12:00
O. 9 at Detroit–1:00
O. 17 WASHINGTON (Mon.)–8:00
O. 23 MINNESOTA–12:00
O. 30 at Cincinnati–4:00
N. 6 CLEVELAND (Milw.)–12:00
N. 13 at Minnesota–12:00
N. 20 DETROIT (Milw.)–12:00
N. 27 at Atlanta–4:00
D. 4 CHICAGO–12:00
D. 12 at Tampa Bay (Mon.)–9:00
D. 18 at Chicago–12:00

Minnesota Vikings
S. 4 at Cleveland–1:00
S. 8 SAN FRANCISCO (Thurs.)–7:30
S. 18 at Tampa Bay–4:00
S. 25 DETROIT–12:00
O. 2 DALLAS–12:00
O. 9 at Chicago–12:00
O. 16 HOUSTON–12:00
O. 23 at Green Bay–12:00
O. 30 at St. Louis–12:00
N. 6 TAMPA BAY–12:00
N. 13 GREEN BAY–12:00
N. 20 at Pittsburgh–1:00
N. 27 at New Orleans–12:00
D. 5 at Detroit (Mon.)–9:00
D. 11 CHICAGO–12:00
D. 17 CINCINNATI (Sat.)–3:00

Tampa Bay Buccaneers
S. 4 DETROIT–1:00
S. 11 at Chicago–12:00
S. 18 MINNESOTA–4:00
S. 25 CINCINNATI–1:00
O. 2 at Green Bay–12:00
O. 9 at Dallas–3:00
O. 16 ST. LOUIS–1:00
O. 23 NEW ORLEANS–4:00
O. 30 at Pittsburgh–1:00
N. 6 at Minnesota–12:00
N. 13 at Cleveland–1:00
N. 20 CHICAGO–1:00
N. 27 HOUSTON–1:00
D. 4 at San Francisco–1:00
D. 12 GREEN BAY (Mon.)–9:00
D. 18 at Detroit–4:00

WEST

Atlanta Falcons
S. 4 at Chicago–12:00
S. 11 NEW YORK GIANTS–1:00
S. 18 at Detroit–1:00
S. 25 at San Francisco–1:00
O. 2 PHILADELPHIA–1:00
O. 9 NEW ORLEANS–1:00
O. 16 at Los Angeles Rams–1:00
O. 23 at New York Jets–1:00
O. 30 NEW ENGLAND–1:00
N. 6 at New Orleans–12:00
N. 14 LOS ANGELES RAMS (Mon.)–9:00
N. 20 SAN FRANCISCO–4:00
N. 27 GREEN BAY–4:00
D. 4 at Washington–1:00
D. 10 at Miami (Sat.)–4:00
D. 18 BUFFALO–1:00

Los Angeles Rams
S. 4 at New York Giants–1:00
S. 11 NEW ORLEANS–1:00
S. 18 at Green Bay (Milw.)–12:00
S. 25 at New York Jets–4:00
O. 2 DETROIT–1:00
O. 9 at San Francisco–1:00
O. 16 ATLANTA–1:00
O. 23 SAN FRANCISCO–1:00
O. 30 at Miami–1:00
N. 6 CHICAGO–1:00
N. 14 at Atlanta (Mon.)–9:00
N. 20 WASHINGTON–1:00
N. 27 BUFFALO–1:00
D. 4 at Philadelphia–1:00
D. 11 NEW ENGLAND–1:00
D. 18 at New Orleans–12:00

New Orleans Saints
S. 4 ST. LOUIS–12:00
S. 11 at Los Angeles Rams–1:00
S. 18 CHICAGO–12:00
S. 25 at Dallas–12:00
O. 2 MIAMI–3:00
O. 9 at Atlanta–1:00
O. 16 SAN FRANCISCO–12:00
O. 23 at Tampa Bay–4:00
O. 30 at Buffalo–1:00
N. 6 ATLANTA–12:00
N. 13 at San Francisco–1:00
N. 21 NEW YORK JETS (Mon.)–8:00
N. 27 MINNESOTA–12:00
D. 4 at New England–1:00
D. 11 at Philadelphia–1:00
D. 18 LOS ANGELES RAMS–12:00

San Francisco 49ers
S. 4 PHILADELPHIA–1:00
S. 8 at Minnesota (Thurs.)–7:30
S. 18 at St. Louis–12:00
S. 25 ATLANTA–1:00
O. 2 at New England–1:00
O. 9 LOS ANGELES RAMS–1:00
O. 16 at New Orleans–12:00
O. 23 at Los Angeles Rams–1:00
O. 30 NEW YORK JETS–1:00
N. 6 MIAMI–1:00
N. 13 NEW ORLEANS–1:00
N. 20 at Atlanta–4:00
N. 27 at Chicago–12:00
D. 4 TAMPA BAY–1:00
D. 11 at Buffalo–1:00
D. 19 DALLAS (Mon.)–6:00

Honey Watching On a Sunday Afternoon

by Jerry McCoin

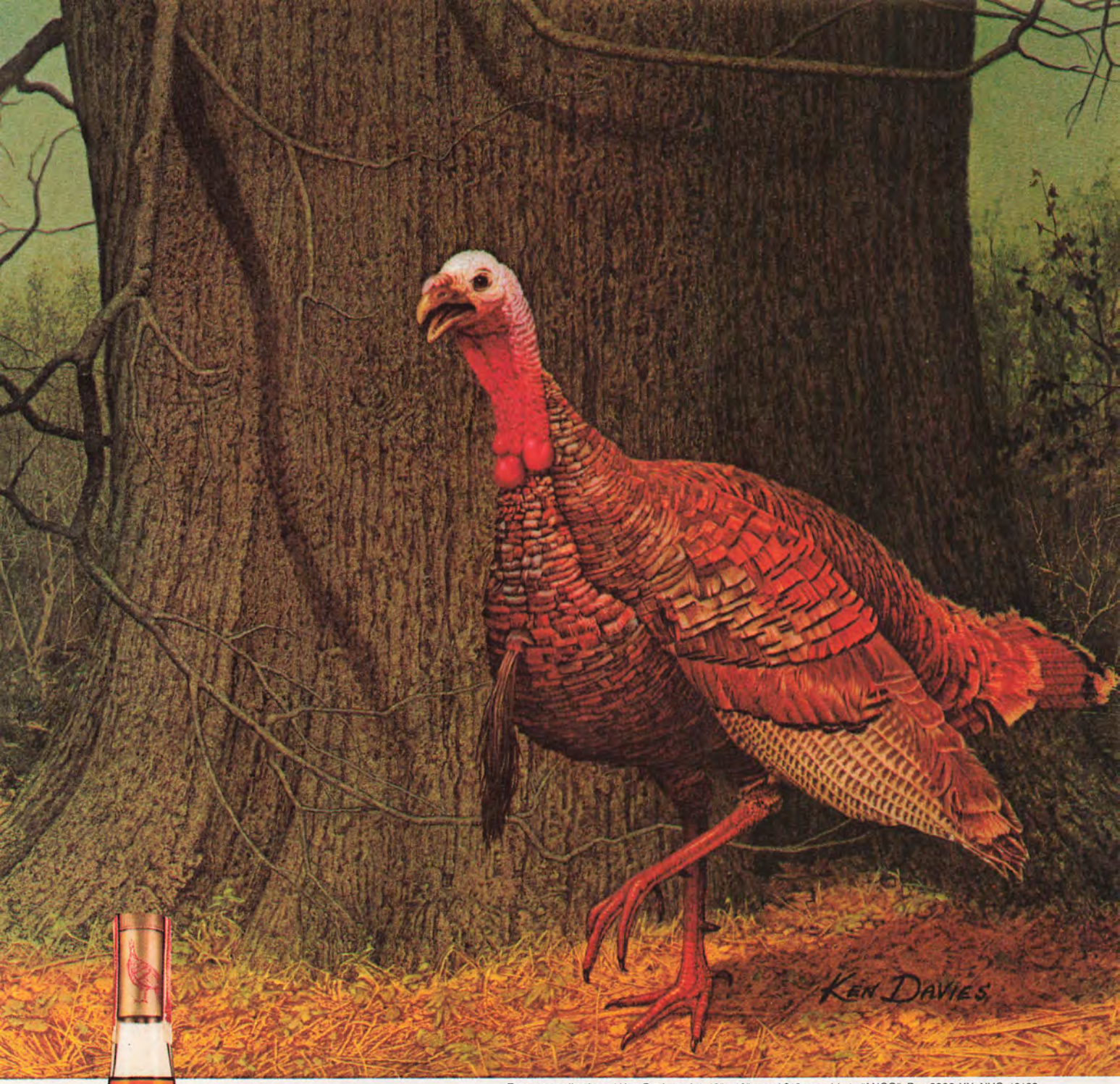
Many things make going to a professional football game an enjoyable experience.

You see football played at its highest level. You watch some of the world's greatest athletes performing feats of amazing balance and dexterity. Like thousands of fans, you root for your team to win.

Of all the extras that make going to a pro football game enjoyable, none is more pleasurable than watching pro football's lovely ladies on the sidelines.

On the following pages Athlon *offers a select sampling of the beautiful women across the country who make Sunday afternoon at the stadium more satisfying.*

(continued)



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Always On The Move

The Wild Turkey instinctively seeks "elbow room." If the bird senses any encroachment on its territory, it will travel many miles a day in search of a remote swamp or forest preserve.

Native only to the American continent, the Wild Turkey is a fitting symbol for America's greatest native whiskey– Wild Turkey.

WILD TURKEY®/101 PROOF/8 YEARS OLD
AUSTIN, NICHOLS DISTILLING CO., LAWRENCEBURG, KENTUCKY © 1982

Honey Watching

(continued)

These Buffalo gals are three of the Bills' most enthusiastic supporters. And they're pretty enough to make you forget how cold the wind can be whipping off Lake Erie.

(continued)

Honey Watching

(continued)

Whether in Dallas or Houston, you'll find that Texans love their football and they love good looking women. These three beauties keep them smiling in the Lone Star State all season long.

END

IF YOU DON'T HAVE THIS CARD, RENTING A CAR IS TAKING TOO LONG.

INTRODUCING THE NEW HERTZ EXPRESS SERVICE PASS, EXCLUSIVELY FOR #1 CLUB MEMBERS.

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And nobody else has anything quite like it.

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The key to the new service is the Hertz Express Service Pass, a permanent card you carry in your wallet. It is both your #1 Club card, and a permanent pass. You no longer have to get a pass each time you rent a car.

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When you land, walk past all the rental counters in the terminal to the Hertz Courtesy Bus, and give the driver your card. In some airports, you can walk straight to the Hertz Express Service Booth. In either case, your completed rental agreement and reserved car will be waiting for you. That's all there is to it.

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It's the card for people who want less to do when they have the least time to do it.

#1 For Everyone.™

Hertz®

Hertz rents Fords and other fine cars.

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(Allen continued)

But by that time the Raider backfield resembled the San Diego Freeway at 5:45 p.m. So Allen once again circled in the other direction and somehow managed to dive through a rapidly closing hole to score the touchdown.

It was at the end of that game that a shaken Flores said, "There is no question that God blessed us by giving us Marcus Allen."

"Marcus adds a new dimension to our team," guard Mickey Marvin chimes in. "He can run, he can block, he can catch. He's so good he makes everybody around him a little better."

"He's shifty," says defensive end Dave Browning. "He's the key to our offense, the key to our future."

O. J. Simpson maintains Marcus Allen will outdo Herschel Walker as a pro.

Browning played his college football at Washington. It was against the Huskies at Seattle, in Allen's senior season, when he carried the ball around end with approximately 549 USC blockers in front of him to gain 13 yards. That gave Marcus 2,000 yards exactly for the season and made him the first college back ever to reach that plateau.

Only one player in NFL history has ever gained 2,000 yards in a season. His name, of course, is O. J. Simpson.

Allen and Simpson are two of the seven USC tailbacks who have won All-America recognition since 1966. The others were Mike Garrett, Clarence Davis, Anthony Davis, Ricky Bell and Charles White.

Some of the Trojan tailbacks had to settle for modest achievements in pro ball, like Anthony Davis. Simpson never began to realize his potential at Buffalo until he began to get some of the blocking Allen enjoyed in his rookie season with the Raiders.

For a significant time in Allen's collegiate career, it looked as though he would be leading, rather than following, the interference for USC's perennial Pac-10 title contenders. As a Trojan sophomore, he blocked for White out of the fullback position. His junior season at USC represented a learning period and didn't approach his record-breaking senior year.

Some pro scouts wondered whether they saw the real Marcus Allen in 1980 or in the following Heisman Trophy season. They also asked whether he was big enough and fast enough to do the job for the Raiders.

One of the first people he convinced was Plunkett.

"He's got that knack of cutting back and spotting the hole," the Raider quarterback says. "He's just a great runner. And he has helped our deep passing game a lot. He's such a threat because he gets the ball over the line of scrimmage and can turn almost any run into a big play."

Allen also poses a threat as an option passer. Plunkett jokes that Marcus has a stronger arm than he does, "But that isn't saying much."

A few Denver defensive backs became believers during their '82 match with the Raiders. Allen cranked up on one halfback pass play and hit Cliff Branch in the numbers, 40 yards away.

And Branch dropped the ball.

"It was too easy," he said later. "I had too much time to think."

"Just watch," one expert observer says, "during his first five years in the pros, Marcus Allen is going to be more productive than Herschel Walker will be."

The man making the prediction is Simpson.

And the reason he can say that with a confident smile—while racing down an airport concourse with a glass of orange juice in one hand—is that he won't have to tackle either one.

END

(Super Bowl continued)
enough problems trying to win without having problems in the locker room, too. We wanted players who would work hard, would study hard and would have a good rapport together."

The coach wanted, in short, players with habits like his. There's no air of genius around Gibbs, the former San Diego offensive coordinator whom Dan Fouts called "an offensive genius." The earliest sign of his worth came in 1981 when his Redskins, his very first team, lost their first five games.

"There was no panic," said Dan Henning, Gibbs' assistant head coach then and now the Atlanta Falcons' boss. "If Joe was going to crack, that was the time. Everybody, the players and coaches too, saw the same Joe Gibbs at 0-5 as you see now in the Super Bowl. He was a rock. But not so much a rock that he wouldn't change."

At 0-5 in his rookie season, Gibbs trash-canned the offense he had tried to transplant from San Diego. Theismann was a very good Theismann, but a lousy Fouts. At 0-5, Gibbs went to a one-back offense that gave Theismann two tight ends for better blocking. From there, the Redskins won eight of their last 11 games of the '81 season.

"All I want is consistency," Gibbs said consistently.

The owner, Jack Kent Cooke, was quoted in the summer of '82 saying, "I just want a quasi-dynasty, such as Dallas has. Is that too much to ask?"

Gibbs said, "I'm not talking about the Cowboys. I just want to be the Redskins."

So there were smart players who got along with each other. There was the highest-paid coaching staff in the NFL ("I'm not proud of that," Cooke said, "but it's true. Joe wanted those men, and I said, 'You have them'."). There was, by December, such magic in the air that by then only the truly crazed could doubt even the most unlikely event.

Say, for instance, that Mark Moseley, once almost fired, would kick 21 straight field goals, a pro record, with the last one flying 42 yards through a snowstorm with only four seconds to go to win a game, 15-14, that would put the Redskins into the playoffs for the first time in six seasons.

It happened. On Dec. 19, Moseley's 21st straight field goal, his 18th of the season, beat the New York Giants, and the kicker said, "I had the feeling all week it would come down to the record field goal, and it would win the game, too."

At the end of the regular season, when the Redskins had an 8-1 record, someone figured out that if Moseley had missed only six field goals at the worst possible time—leaving him still with the best season of his long career—then the Redskins would have finished not 8-1 but 4-5.

Then came the playoffs, a month more of magic . . . .

Fulton Walker's 98-yard kickoff return gave Miami the halftime lead in the Super Bowl.

Redskins 31, Detroit 7. The team's best receiver, Art Monk, broke his foot the week before. So the smallest Smurf had to take over. Mainly a special teams player, Garrett had caught six passes in three NFL seasons—only one in '82. This day he caught six more, including three for touchdowns, and he said, "I've had some dreams before, but this is the first time they've come true."

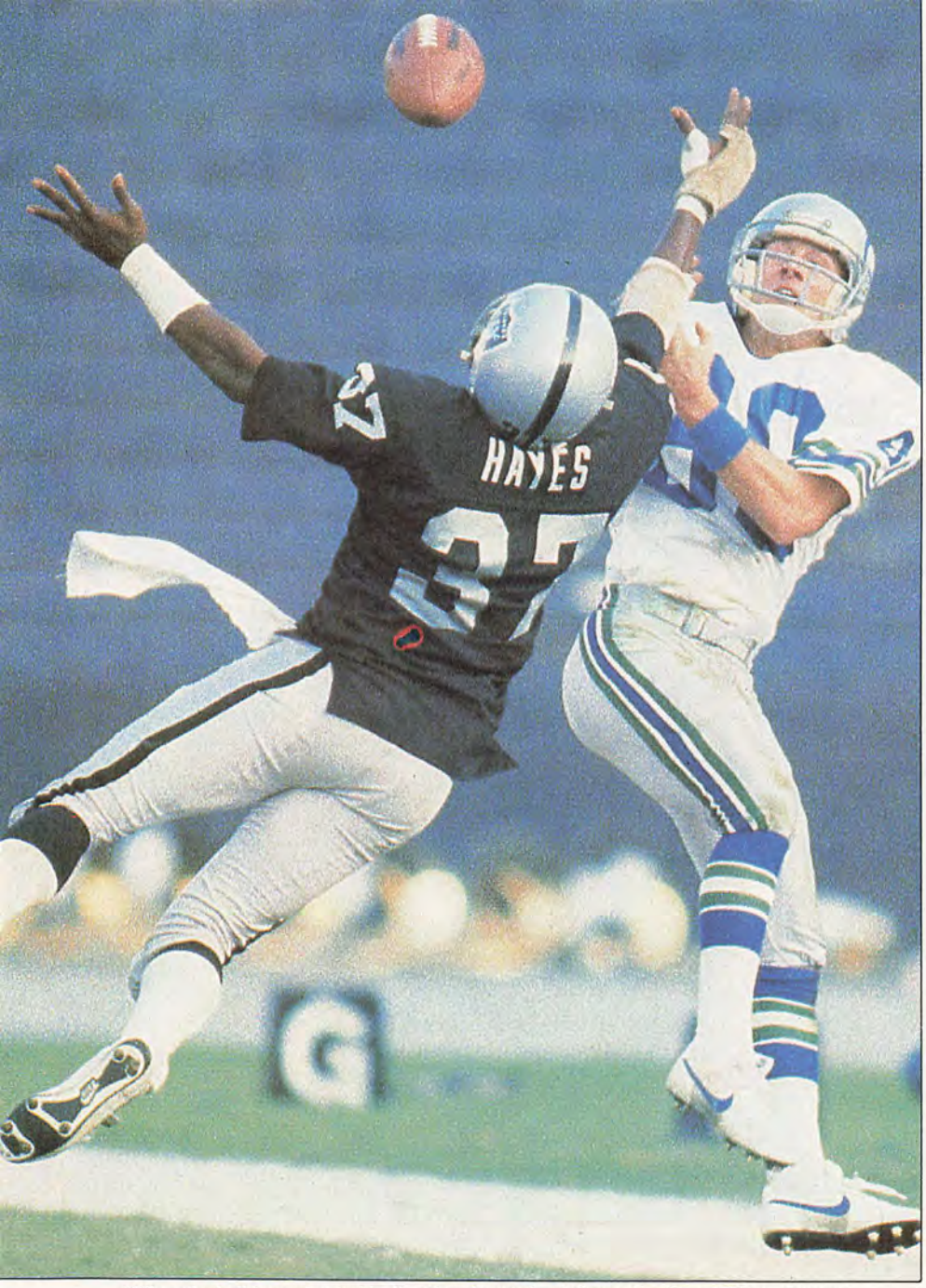
Redskins 21, Minnesota 7. Riggins carried 37 times for 185 yards. Late in the fourth quarter, leaving the field, Riggins stopped to regard the 55,000 screaming meemies in Robert F. Kennedy Stadium. Then he did a remarkable thing: He bowed deeply from the waist, first to one side of the stadium, then to the other, before waving thanks to the fans. Had he ever done that before? "I ain't ever carried 37 times for 185 yards before."

Redskins 31, Dallas 17. "Dallas said they would take on the Hogs straight up," Mark May said, "and we wouldn't run on them like we ran against Minnesota. Tell them I hope they have fun watching the Super Bowl on television. This was our revenge. This was the Hogs' revenge."

Redskins 27, Miami 17 in Super Bowl XVII. Theismann finished the four playoff games with dazzling numbers: 58 of 85 passes (68.2 percent) for 716 yards and eight touchdowns. Riggins carried 136 times for 610 yards and four touchdowns. "I'm very happy," Riggins said. "At least for tonight, Ron's the president, but I'm the king."

By phone to the Redskins that night, Ronald Reagan had wondered if he could change the spelling of his name a bit—"an *I* and a couple of *G's*"—so he could claim a kin's share of the glory accruing to a Hog who wears top hat and tails. Only in America.

END



"When the ball is coming in his direction, he catches it," says Jim Zorn of Steve Largent.

(Zorn-Largent continued)

Largent still finished the year with more than twice as many receptions as any other wide receiver on the team.

He is nevertheless wondering whether his determination to become a less impulsive receiver might have hampered his effectiveness at times in 1982.

"I think my first four or five years I played a little more recklessly," he says. "By 'reckless' I mean being physically out of control at times. I want to play more under control. But maybe I didn't do a good job of separating recklessness from aggressiveness. I might have been less aggressive. That's something I've thought about in the off-season."

Talking about troubled thoughts, the Houston Oilers have had a lot of them since they let Largent go to Seattle in a trade that returned them only an eighth-round draft choice. Bum Phillips, then the Oilers' coach, admitted later that the transaction pained him more than a pair of size-six cowboy boots. Few scouts thought Largent was fast enough to make a major impact in the professional game.

Yet in his fourth season at Seattle, he led the entire NFL in receiving yardage with 1,237 yards on 66 receptions.

Obviously, Largent has great hands, compensating for his lack of quickness afoot.

"The key to the whole thing is concentration," he corrects. "Having 'great hands' is a cliche that doesn't go very far in describing how you catch a football. Look at Howard Twilley. His hands were very small. He was slower than most wide receivers, too. But one thing he had was great concentration.

"When I think of great technicians, two names that come to mind are Paul Warfield and Charlie Joiner. Three, actually. Add Fred Biletnikoff. He would spend hours working on just one aspect of his game."

Yet Largent's success in the pro game does not prompt him to second-guess the Oilers. After all, he was still available to them in the draft when the fourth round came along.

"I was excited to be drafted at all," Largent insists. "If I'd known then what I know now, I'd have said that the fourth round was about right. There were about a dozen wide receivers drafted before me. They were rated right."

Of course, Zorn was also lightly regarded when he emerged from high school, junior college and, finally, Cal Poly of Pomona. He arrived in Seattle in 1976 as a free agent.

"I never knew Jim Zorn existed before I came to the Seahawks," Largent remembers. "And the first weeks of training camp that first year, we weren't sure who would be the starting quarterback. Neil Graff was here, Bill Munson was here and they had a couple of other quarterbacks. It wasn't like Jim was 'The Man.'

"Our friendship developed a lot in the off-season after the first year. Jim was the type who worked hard getting ready for the next season. I worked hard, too. So we kind of hung together."

Eventually, their wives and children became close although those relationships were not quite as firm as the one that developed between Zorn and Largent, as roomates in a college dorm without air conditioning during summer training camps in eastern Washington.

"The first couple of years, we were like a couple of brothers fighting," Zorn laughs, looking back. "We'd argue over a lot of things. Why don't I turn out the light? Why does he have to read so late? Why can't we listen to my kind of music? I mean important things like, 'Are you going to breakfast now?' and 'No, I want to wait five more minutes.' Just silly things, really.

"Actually, Steve has a pretty complex personality," the quarterback reveals. "He appears easygoing, which at times he is. But he is also very serious at other times. He has many different personality traits."

Yet the quarterback and the receiver are alike in a lot of obvious ways. They are both active in Christian groups and give of themselves extensively in charity work. They're non-drinkers. The "moostaches" are real. If they want to get high, they go out and climb Mt. Rainier together, something they did a couple of years ago.

It remains to be seen how the passing game restructured by Chuck Knox will affect them and their relationship. But one aspect of Seahawk football probably will not change a lot under the new administration.

"It's Steve's ball, when it's in his area," says Zorn. "When the ball is coming in his direction, he catches it."

END

1983 MAJOR COLLEGE SCHEDULES

+ Home game * Night game

ATLANTIC COAST

Clemson
Clemson, S.C.
(9-1-1)
S. 3 Western Caro. +
S. 10 Boston Col. *
S. 17 Georgia +
S. 24 Georgia Tech +
O. 8 Virginia +
O. 15 Duke
O. 22 North Carolina St. +
O. 29 Wake Forest +
N. 5 North Carolina
N. 12 Maryland +
N. 19 South Carolina

Duke
Durham, N.C.
(6-5-0)
S. 3 Virginia *
S. 10 Indiana
S. 17 South Carolina +
O. 1 Miami, Fla. +
O. 8 Virginia Tech
O. 15 Clemson +
O. 22 Maryland
O. 29 Georgia Tech +
N. 5 Wake Forest
N. 12 North Carolina St. +
N. 19 North Carolina

Georgia Tech
Atlanta, Ga.
(6-5-0)
S. 10 Alabama @
S. 17 Furman +
S. 24 Clemson
O. 1 North Carolina +
O. 8 North Carolina St.
O. 15 Auburn +
O. 22 Tennessee
O. 29 Duke
N. 5 Virginia +
N. 12 Wake Forest +
N. 26 Georgia +
@ Birmingham, Ala.

Maryland
College Park, Md.
(8-3-0)
S. 10 Vanderbilt *
S. 17 West Virginia +
S. 24 Pittsburgh +
O. 1 Virginia +
O. 8 Syracuse +
O. 15 Wake Forest
O. 22 Duke +
O. 29 North Carolina +
N. 5 Auburn
N. 12 Clemson
N. 19 North Carolina St.

North Carolina
Chapel Hill, N.C.
(7-4-0)
S. 3 South Carolina *
S. 10 Memphis St. +
S. 17 Miami, O. +
S. 24 William & Mary +
O. 1 Georgia Tech
O. 8 Wake Forest +
O. 15 North Carolina St.
O. 29 Maryland
N. 5 Clemson +
N. 12 Virginia
N. 19 Duke +

North Carolina State
Raleigh, N.C.
(6-5-0)
S. 10 East Carolina +*
S. 17 Citadel +*
S. 24 Virginia +*
O. 1 Wake Forest
O. 8 Georgia Tech +
O. 15 North Carolina +
O. 22 Clemson
O. 29 South Carolina
N. 5 Appalachian St. +
N. 12 Duke
N. 19 Maryland +

Virginia
Charlottesville, Va.
(2-9-0)
S. 3 Duke +*
S. 10 Navy +*
S. 17 James Madison +*
S. 24 North Carolina St. *
O. 1 Maryland
O. 8 Clemson
O. 15 Va. Military +*
O. 22 Wake Forest
N. 5 Georgia Tech
N. 12 North Carolina +
N. 19 Virginia Tech +

Wake Forest
Winston-Salem, N.C.
(3-8-0)
S. 3 Appalachian St. +*
S. 10 Virginia Tech
S. 17 Western Caro. +*
S. 24 Richmond
O. 1 North Carolina St. +
O. 8 North Carolina
O. 15 Maryland +
O. 22 Virginia +
O. 29 Clemson
N. 5 Duke +
N. 12 Georgia Tech

BIG EIGHT

Colorado
Boulder, Colo.
(2-8-1)
S. 10 Michigan St.
S. 17 Colorado St. +
S. 24 Oregon St. +
O. 1 Notre Dame +
O. 8 Missouri +
O. 15 Iowa State
O. 22 Nebraska
O. 29 Oklahoma St. +
N. 5 Kansas
N. 12 Oklahoma
N. 19 Kansas St. +

Iowa State
Ames, Iowa
(4-6-1)
S. 10 Iowa +
S. 17 Vanderbilt *
S. 24 Colorado St. +
O. 1 New Mexico St. +
O. 8 Kansas +
O. 15 Colorado +
O. 22 Oklahoma
O. 29 Missouri +
N. 5 Nebraska
N. 12 Kansas St.
N. 19 Oklahoma St. +

Kansas
Lawrence, Kan.
(2-7-2)
S. 3 Northern Ill. +
S. 10 Texas Christian *
S. 17 Wichita St. +
S. 24 Southern Cal
O. 8 Iowa State
O. 15 Kansas St. +
O. 22 Oklahoma St. +
O. 29 Oklahoma
N. 5 Colorado +
N. 12 Nebraska
N. 19 Missouri +

Kansas State
Manhattan, Kan.
(6-4-1)
S. 3 Long Beach St. +
S. 10 Kentucky
S. 17 Texas Christian +
S. 24 Wyoming +
O. 1 Oklahoma +
O. 15 Kansas
O. 22 Missouri
O. 29 Nebraska +
N. 5 Oklahoma St.
N. 12 Iowa State +
N. 19 Colorado

Missouri
Columbia, Mo.
(5-4-2)
S. 10 Illinois +
S. 17 Wisconsin
S. 24 Utah State +
O. 1 East Carolina +
O. 8 Colorado
O. 15 Nebraska +
O. 22 Kansas St. +
O. 29 Iowa State
N. 5 Oklahoma +
N. 12 Oklahoma St. +
N. 19 Kansas

Nebraska
Lincoln, Neb.
(11-1-0)
A. 29 Penn State @*
S. 10 Wyoming +
S. 17 Minnesota *
S. 24 UCLA +
O. 1 Syracuse +
O. 8 Oklahoma St.
O. 15 Missouri
O. 22 Colorado +
O. 29 Kansas St.
N. 5 Iowa State +
N. 12 Kansas +
N. 26 Oklahoma
@ East Rutherford, N.J.

Oklahoma
Norman, Okla.
(8-3-0)
S. 10 Stanford
S. 17 Ohio State +
S. 24 Tulsa +
O. 1 Kansas St.
O. 8 Texas @
O. 15 Oklahoma St.
O. 22 Iowa State +
O. 29 Kansas +
N. 5 Missouri
N. 12 Colorado +
N. 26 Nebraska +
D. 3 Hawaii *
@ Dallas, Texas

Oklahoma State
Stillwater, Okla.
(4-5-2)
S. 10 North Texas St. +
S. 17 Cincinnati *
S. 24 Texas A&M *
O. 1 Tulsa +
O. 8 Nebraska +
O. 15 Oklahoma +
O. 22 Kansas
O. 29 Colorado
N. 5 Kansas St. +
N. 12 Missouri
N. 19 Iowa State

BIG TEN

Illinois
Champaign, Ill.
(7-4-0)
S. 10 Missouri
S. 17 Stanford +*
S. 24 Michigan St.
O. 1 Iowa +
O. 8 Wisconsin
O. 15 Ohio State +
O. 22 Purdue
O. 29 Michigan +
N. 5 Minnesota *
N. 12 Indiana +
N. 19 Northwestern

Indiana
Bloomington, Ind.
(5-6-0)
S. 10 Duke +
S. 17 Kentucky
S. 24 Northwestern +
O. 1 Michigan
O. 8 Minnesota +
O. 15 Michigan St. +
O. 22 Wisconsin
O. 29 Iowa
N. 5 Ohio State +
N. 12 Illinois
N. 19 Purdue +

Iowa
Iowa City, Iowa
(7-4-0)
S. 10 Iowa State
S. 17 Penn State
S. 24 Ohio State +
O. 1 Illinois
O. 8 Northwestern +
O. 15 Purdue +
O. 22 Michigan
O. 29 Indiana +
N. 5 Wisconsin
N. 12 Michigan St.
N. 19 Minnesota +

Michigan
Ann Arbor, Mich.
(8-3-0)
S. 10 Washington St. +
S. 17 Washington
S. 24 Wisconsin
O. 1 Indiana +
O. 8 Michigan St.
O. 15 Northwestern +
O. 22 Iowa +
O. 29 Illinois
N. 5 Purdue +
N. 12 Minnesota *
N. 19 Ohio State +

Michigan State
East Lansing, Mich.
(2-9-0)
S. 10 Colorado +
S. 17 Notre Dame
S. 24 Illinois +
O. 1 Purdue
O. 8 Michigan +
O. 15 Indiana
O. 22 Ohio State
O. 29 Minnesota +
N. 5 Northwestern
N. 12 Iowa +
N. 19 Wisconsin

Minnesota
Minneapolis, Minn.
(5-8-0)
S. 10 Rice *
S. 17 Nebraska +*
S. 24 Purdue +*
O. 1 Ohio State
O. 8 Indiana
O. 15 Wisconsin +*
O. 22 Northwestern
O. 29 Michigan St.
N. 5 Illinois +*
N. 12 Michigan +*
N. 19 Iowa

Northwestern
Evanston, Ill.
(3-8-0)
S. 10 Washington +
S. 17 Syracuse *
S. 24 Indiana
O. 1 Wisconsin +
O. 8 Iowa
O. 15 Michigan
O. 22 Minnesota +
O. 29 Purdue
N. 5 Michigan St. +
N. 12 Ohio State
N. 19 Illinois +

Ohio State
Columbus, Ohio
(8-3-0)
S. 10 Oregon +
S. 17 Oklahoma
S. 24 Iowa
O. 1 Minnesota +
O. 8 Purdue +
O. 15 Illinois
O. 22 Michigan St. +
O. 29 Wisconsin +
N. 5 Indiana
N. 12 Northwestern +
N. 19 Michigan

Purdue
West Lafayette, Ind.
(3-8-0)
S. 10 Notre Dame +
S. 17 Miami, Fla. *
S. 24 Minnesota *
O. 1 Michigan St. +
O. 8 Ohio State
O. 15 Iowa
O. 22 Illinois +
O. 29 Northwestern +
N. 5 Michigan
N. 12 Wisconsin +
N. 19 Indiana

Wisconsin
Madison, Wis.
(6-5-0)
S. 10 Northern Ill. +
S. 17 Missouri +
S. 24 Michigan +
O. 1 Northwestern
O. 8 Illinois +
O. 15 Minnesota *
O. 22 Indiana +
O. 29 Ohio State
N. 5 Iowa +
N. 12 Purdue
N. 19 Michigan St. +

EASTERN INDEPENDENTS

Army
West Point, N.Y.
(4-7-0)
S. 10 Colgate +
S. 17 Louisville *
S. 24 Dartmouth +
O. 1 Harvard
O. 8 Rutgers +
O. 15 Notre Dame @
O. 22 Lehigh +
O. 29 Air Force
N. 5 Boston Col. +
N. 12 Pittsburgh
N. 25 Navy %
@ East Rutherford, N.J.
% Pasadena, Cal.

Boston College
Chestnut Hill, Mass.
(8-2-1)
S. 10 Clemson +*
S. 17 Rutgers ¢
S. 24 West Virginia +*
O. 1 Temple
O. 8 Yale
O. 29 Penn State %
N. 5 Army
N. 12 Syracuse
N. 19 Holy Cross @
N. 25 Alabama %
@ Cambridge, Mass.
% Foxboro, Mass.
¢ East Rutherford, N.J.

Navy
Annapolis, Md.
(6-5-0)
S. 10 Virginia *
S. 17 Mississippi St. @*
S. 24 Lehigh +
O. 1 Washington
O. 8 Air Force +
O. 15 Princeton
O. 22 Pittsburgh +
O. 29 Notre Dame
N. 5 Syracuse +
N. 12 South Carolina
N. 25 Army %
@ Jackson, Miss.
% Pasadena, Cal.

Penn State
University Park, Pa.
(10-1-0)
A. 29 Nebraska @*
S. 5 Rutgers @
S. 10 Cincinnati +
S. 17 Navy +
S. 24 Temple
O. 8 Alabama +
O. 15 Syracuse
O. 22 West Virginia +
O. 29 Boston Col.
N. 5 Brown +
N. 12 Notre Dame +
N. 19 Pittsburgh
@ East Rutherford, N.J.

Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, Pa.
(9-2-0)
S. 3 Tennessee *
S. 10 Temple +
S. 24 Maryland
O. 1 West Virginia
O. 8 Florida St. +
O. 15 Louisville *
O. 22 Navy
O. 29 Syracuse +
N. 5 Notre Dame
N. 12 Army +
N. 19 Penn State +

Rutgers
New Brunswick, N.J.
(5-6-0)
S. 3 Penn State @
S. 17 Boston Col. @
S. 24 Syracuse
O. 1 Richmond +
O. 8 Army
O. 15 Colgate +
O. 22 William & Mary
O. 29 Tennessee @
N. 5 Cincinnati
N. 12 West Virginia
N. 19 Temple +
@ East Rutherford, N.J.

Syracuse
Syracuse, N.Y.
(2-9-0)
S. 2 Temple *
S. 10 Kent State +*
S. 17 Northwestern +*
S. 24 Rutgers +
O. 1 Nebraska
O. 8 Maryland
O. 15 Penn State +
O. 29 Pittsburgh
N. 5 Navy
N. 12 Boston Col. +
N. 19 West Virginia +

Temple
Philadelphia, Pa.
(4-7-0)
S. 2 Syracuse +*
S. 10 Pittsburgh
S. 24 Penn State +
O. 1 Boston Col. +
O. 8 Cincinnati *
O. 15 East Carolina +
O. 22 Delaware
O. 29 Georgia
N. 5 West Virginia
N. 12 Louisville +
N. 19 Rutgers

West Virginia
Morgantown, W.Va.
(9-2-0)
S. 3 Ohio +
S. 10 Pacific +
S. 17 Maryland
S. 24 Boston Col. *
O. 1 Pittsburgh +
O. 15 Virginia Tech +
O. 22 Penn State
O. 29 Miami, Fla.
N. 5 Temple +
N. 12 Rutgers +
N. 19 Syracuse

PACIFIC TEN

Arizona
Tucson, Ariz.
(6-4-1)
S. 3 Oregon St. +*
S. 10 Utah +*
S. 17 Washington St.
S. 24 Fullerton St. +*
O. 1 California
O. 8 Colorado St. +*
O. 15 Oregon +*
O. 22 Stanford
N. 5 Washington +
N. 12 UCLA +
N. 26 Arizona St. *

Arizona State
Tempe, Ariz.
(9-2-0)
S. 10 Utah State +*
S. 17 UCLA *
S. 24 Wichita St. +*
O. 1 Stanford +*
O. 15 Southern Cal
O. 22 Washington St. +*
O. 29 Florida St. +*
N. 5 California
N. 12 Oregon St. +*
N. 19 San Jose St. +*
N. 26 Arizona +*

California
Berkeley, Calif.
(7-4-0)
S. 3 Texas A&M *
S. 10 San Diego St.
S. 17 San Jose St. +
O. 1 Arizona +
O. 8 Oregon
O. 15 Oregon St. +
O. 22 UCLA
O. 29 Southern Cal +
N. 5 Arizona St. +
N. 12 Washington St.
N. 19 Stanford

Oregon
Eugene, Ore.
(2-8-1)
S. 3 Pacific +
S. 10 Ohio State
S. 24 Houston +
O. 1 San Jose St. *
O. 8 California +
O. 15 Arizona *
O. 22 Washington +
O. 29 Washington St.
N. 5 UCLA +
N. 12 Stanford
N. 19 Oregon St. +

Oregon State
Corvallis, Ore.
(1-9-1)
S. 3 Arizona *
S. 10 Portland St. *
S. 17 Southern Cal +*
S. 24 Colorado
O. 1 Nevada-Las Vegas +
O. 8 Washington
O. 15 California
O. 29 Stanford +
N. 5 Washington St. +
N. 12 Arizona St. *
N. 19 Oregon

Southern Cal
Los Angeles, Calif.
(8-3-0)
S. 10 Florida +
S. 17 Oregon St. *
S. 24 Kansas +
O. 1 South Carolina *
O. 8 Washington St. +
O. 15 Arizona St. +
O. 22 Notre Dame
O. 29 California
N. 5 Stanford +
N. 12 Washington
N. 19 UCLA +

Stanford
Stanford, Calif.
(5-6-0)
S. 10 Oklahoma +
S. 17 Illinois *
S. 24 San Jose St. +
O. 1 Arizona St. *
O. 8 UCLA +
O. 15 Washington
O. 22 Arizona +
O. 29 Oregon St.
N. 5 Southern Cal
N. 12 Oregon +
N. 19 California +

UCLA
Los Angeles, Calif.
(9-1-1)
S. 3 Georgia *
S. 17 Arizona St. +*
S. 24 Nebraska
O. 1 Brigham Young +
O. 8 Stanford
O. 15 Washington St.
O. 22 California +
O. 29 Washington +
N. 5 Oregon
N. 12 Arizona
N. 19 Southern Cal

Washington
Seattle, Wash.
(9-2-0)
S. 10 Northwestern
S. 17 Michigan +
S. 24 Louisiana St. *
O. 1 Navy +
O. 8 Oregon St. +
O. 15 Stanford +
O. 22 Oregon
O. 29 UCLA
N. 5 Arizona
N. 12 Southern Cal +
N. 19 Washington St. +

Washington St.
Pullman, Wash.
(3-7-1)
S. 3 Montana St. @
S. 10 Michigan
S. 17 Arizona +
S. 24 Nevada-Las Vegas @
O. 8 Southern Cal
O. 15 UCLA +
O. 22 Arizona St. *
O. 29 Oregon +
N. 5 Oregon St.
N. 12 California +
N. 19 Washington
@ Spokane, Wash.

SOUTHEASTERN

Alabama
University, Ala.
(7-4-0)
S. 10 Georgia Tech @
S. 17 Mississippi +
S. 24 Vanderbilt *
O. 1 Memphis St. +
O. 8 Penn State
O. 15 Tennessee @
O. 29 Mississippi St. +
N. 5 Louisiana S. +
N. 12 Southern Miss @
N. 25 Boston Col. %
D. 3 Auburn @
@ Birmingham, Ala.
% Foxboro, Mass.

Auburn
Auburn, Ala.
(8-3-0)
S. 10 Southern Miss +*
S. 17 Texas +*
S. 24 Tennessee
O. 1 Florida St. +
O. 8 Kentucky *
O. 15 Georgia Tech
O. 22 Mississippi St. +
O. 29 Florida +
N. 5 Maryland +
N. 12 Georgia
D. 3 Alabama @
@ Birmingham, Ala.

Florida
Gainesville, Fla.
(8-3-0)
S. 3 Miami, Fla. +*
S. 10 Southern Cal
S. 17 Indiana St. +*
S. 24 Mississippi St.
O. 1 Louisiana S. *
O. 8 Vanderbilt +
O. 22 East Carolina +
O. 29 Auburn
N. 5 Georgia @
N. 12 Kentucky +
D. 3 Florida St. +
@ Jacksonville, Fla.

Georgia
Athens, Ga.
(11-0-0)
S. 3 UCLA +*
S. 17 Clemson
S. 24 South Carolina +
O. 1 Mississippi St. +
O. 8 Mississippi
O. 15 Vanderbilt *
O. 22 Kentucky +
O. 29 Temple +
N. 5 Florida @
N. 12 Auburn +
N. 26 Georgia Tech
@ Jacksonville, Fla.

Kentucky
Lexington, Ky.
(0-10-1)
S. 3 Central Mich. +
S. 10 Kansas St. +
S. 17 Indiana +
S. 24 Tulane +
O. 8 Auburn +*
O. 15 Louisiana St. *
O. 22 Georgia
O. 29 Cincinnati +*
N. 5 Vanderbilt
N. 12 Florida
N. 19 Tennessee +

LSU
Baton Rouge, La.
(8-2-1)
S. 10 Florida St. +*
S. 17 Rice *
S. 24 Washington +*
O. 1 Florida +*
O. 8 Tennessee
O. 15 Kentucky +*
O. 22 South Carolina +*
O. 29 Mississippi @
N. 5 Alabama +*
N. 12 Mississippi St. +*
N. 19 Tulane
@ Jackson, Miss.

Mississippi
University, Miss.
(4-7-0)
S. 3 Memphis St. *
S. 10 Tulane
S. 17 Alabama
S. 24 Arkansas @*
O. 1 Southern Miss +
O. 8 Georgia +
O. 15 Texas Christian
O. 22 Vanderbilt +
O. 29 Louisiana St. @
N. 12 Tennessee
N. 19 Mississippi St. @
@ Jackson, Miss.

Mississippi State
Mississippi State, Miss.
(5-6-0)
S. 3 Tulane +
S. 17 Navy @*
S. 24 Florida +
O. 1 Georgia
O. 8 Southern Miss @
O. 15 Miami, Fla. +
O. 22 Auburn
O. 29 Alabama
N. 5 Memphis St. +
N. 12 Louisiana S. *
N. 19 Mississippi @
@ Jackson, Miss.

Tennessee
Knoxville, Tenn.
(6-4-1)
S. 3 Pittsburgh +*
S. 10 New Mexico +*
S. 24 Auburn +
O. 1 Citadel @
O. 8 Louisiana St. +
O. 15 Alabama %
O. 22 Georgia Tech +
O. 29 Rutgers ¢
N. 12 Mississippi +
N. 19 Kentucky
N. 26 Vanderbilt +
@ Memphis, Tenn.
% Birmingham, Ala.
¢ East Rutherford, N.J.

Vanderbilt
Nashville, Tenn.
(8-3-0)
S. 10 Maryland +*
S. 17 Iowa State +*
S. 24 Alabama +*
O. 1 Tulane
O. 8 Florida
O. 15 Georgia +*
O. 22 Mississippi
O. 29 Memphis St. +
N. 5 Kentucky +
N. 12 Virginia Tech
N. 26 Tennessee

SOUTHWEST

Arkansas
Fayetteville, Ark.
(8-2-1)
S. 10 Tulsa +
S. 17 New Mexico @*
S. 24 Mississippi %*
O. 1 Texas Christian *
O. 15 Texas @*
O. 22 Houston +
O. 29 Rice @*
N. 5 Baylor +
N. 12 Texas A&M
N. 19 Southern Meth. @
N. 26 Texas Tech
@ Little Rock, Ark.
% Jackson, Miss.

Baylor
Waco, Texas
(4-6-1)
S. 10 Brigham Young +*
S. 17 Texas-El Paso *
S. 24 Texas Tech +*
O. 1 Houston *
O. 8 Southern Meth. *
O. 15 Texas A&M +*
O. 22 Texas Christian +
O. 29 Tulane +
N. 5 Arkansas
N. 12 Rice +
N. 19 Texas

Houston
Houston, Texas
(5-5-1)
S. 1 Rice *
S. 10 Miami, Fla. +
S. 17 Lamar +*
S. 24 Oregon
O. 1 Baylor +*
O. 8 Texas A&M
O. 22 Arkansas
O. 29 Texas Christian
N. 5 Texas +
N. 19 Texas Tech +*
N. 26 Southern Meth. @
@ Tokyo, Japan

Rice
Houston, Texas
(0-11-0)
S. 1 Houston +*
S. 10 Minnesota +*
S. 17 Louisiana St. +*
S. 24 SW Louisiana +*
O. 1 Texas *
O. 8 Texas Christian +*
O. 15 Texas Tech *
O. 22 Texas A&M +
O. 29 Arkansas @*
N. 5 Southern Meth.
N. 12 Baylor
@ Little Rock, Ark.

Southern Methodist
Dallas, Texas
(10-0-1)
S. 3 Louisville +*
S. 10 Grambling @*
S. 24 Texas Christian *
O. 1 Texas-Arlington +
O. 8 Baylor +*
O. 22 Texas +
O. 29 Texas A&M
N. 5 Rice +
N. 12 Texas Tech +
N. 19 Arkansas ¢
N. 26 Houston %
@ Shreveport, La.
% Tokyo, Japan
¢ Little Rock, Ark.

Texas
Austin, Texas
(9-2-0)
S. 17 Auburn *
S. 24 North Texas St. +*
O. 1 Rice +*
O. 8 Oklahoma @
O. 15 Arkansas %*
O. 22 Southern Meth.
O. 29 Texas Tech +
N. 5 Houston
N. 12 Texas Christian +
N. 19 Baylor +
N. 26 Texas A&M
@ Dallas, Texas
% Little Rock, Ark.

Texas A&M
College Station, Texas
(5-6-0)
S. 3 California +*
S. 17 Arkansas St. +*
S. 24 Oklahoma St. +*
O. 1 Texas Tech *
O. 8 Houston +
O. 15 Baylor *
O. 22 Rice
O. 29 Southern Meth. +
N. 12 Arkansas *
N. 19 Texas Christian
N. 26 Texas +

Texas Christian
Fort Worth, Texas
(3-8-0)
S. 10 Kansas +*
S. 17 Kansas St.
S. 24 Southern Meth. +*
O. 1 Arkansas +*
O. 8 Rice *
O. 15 Mississippi +
O. 22 Baylor
O. 29 Houston +
N. 5 Texas Tech
N. 12 Texas
N. 19 Texas A&M +

Texas Tech
Lubbock, Texas
(4-7-0)
S. 10 Air Force
S. 24 Baylor *
O. 1 Texas A&M +*
O. 8 New Mexico +*
O. 15 Rice +*
O. 22 Tulsa +*
O. 29 Texas
N. 5 Texas Christian +
N. 12 Southern Meth.
N. 19 Houston +
N. 26 Arkansas +

WESTERN ATHLETIC

Air Force
Academy, Colo.
(7-5-0)
S. 3 Colorado St.
S. 10 Texas Tech +
S. 17 Wyoming
S. 24 Brigham Young +
O. 8 Navy
O. 15 Texas-El Paso +
O. 22 Utah +
O. 29 Army +
N. 5 Hawaii +
N. 19 Notre Dame
N. 26 San Diego St.

Brigham Young
Provo, Utah
(8-3-0)
S. 10 Baylor *
S. 17 Bowling Green +
S. 24 Air Force
O. 1 UCLA
O. 8 Wyoming
O. 15 New Mexico +
O. 22 San Diego St.
O. 29 Utah State +
N. 5 Texas-El Paso *
N. 12 Colorado St. +
N. 19 Utah +

Colorado State
Fort Collins, Colo.
(4-7-0)
S. 3 Air Force +
S. 10 Hawaii *
S. 17 Colorado
S. 24 Iowa State
O. 1 Utah +
O. 8 Arizona *
O. 15 San Diego St. +
O. 22 Texas-El Paso *
O. 29 New Mexico +
N. 5 Northern Colo. +
N. 12 Brigham Young
N. 19 Wyoming

Hawaii
Honolulu, Hawaii
(6-5-0)
S. 10 Colorado St. +*
S. 17 Long Beach St. +*
S. 24 Utah *
O. 1 San Diego St. +*
O. 15 Nevada-Las Vegas
O. 22 New Mexico +*
O. 29 Texas-El Paso +*
N. 5 Air Force
N. 19 Pacific +*
N. 26 Wyoming +*
D. 3 Oklahoma +*

New Mexico
Albuquerque, N.M.
(10-1-0)
S. 3 Utah +*
S. 10 Tennessee *
S. 17 Arkansas @*
S. 24 New Mexico St. *
O. 1 North Texas St. +*
O. 8 Texas Tech *
O. 15 Brigham Young
O. 22 Hawaii *
O. 29 Colorado St.
N. 5 Wyoming +*
N. 12 Texas-El Paso +*
N. 19 San Diego St. +*
@ Little Rock, Ark.

San Diego State
San Diego, Calif.
(7-5-0)
S. 3 Tulsa *
S. 10 California +
S. 17 Utah *
S. 24 Texas-El Paso *
O. 1 Hawaii *
O. 8 Long Beach St. +
O. 15 Colorado St.
O. 22 Brigham Young +
O. 29 Nevada-Las Vegas
N. 12 Wyoming +
N. 19 New Mexico *
N. 26 Air Force +

Texas-El Paso
El Paso, Texas
(2-10-0)
S. 3 New Mexico St. +*
S. 10 Idaho St. +*
S. 17 Baylor +*
S. 24 San Diego St. +*
O. 1 Wyoming
O. 8 Utah *
O. 15 Air Force
O. 22 Colorado St. +*
O. 29 Hawaii *
N. 5 Brigham Young +*
N. 12 New Mexico *
N. 19 Weber St. +*

Utah
Salt Lake City, Utah
(5-6-0)
S. 3 New Mexico *
S. 10 Arizona *
S. 17 San Diego St. +*
S. 24 Hawaii +*
O. 1 Colorado St.
O. 8 Texas-El Paso +*
O. 15 Wyoming +
O. 22 Air Force
N. 5 Fullerton St. +
N. 12 Utah State
N. 19 Brigham Young

Wyoming
Laramie, Wyo.
(5-7-0)
S. 3 South Dakota +
S. 10 Nebraska
S. 17 Air Force +
S. 24 Kansas St.
O. 1 Texas-El Paso +
O. 8 Brigham Young +
O. 15 Utah
O. 22 Colgate +
N. 5 New Mexico *
N. 12 San Diego St.
N. 19 Colorado St. +
N. 26 Hawaii *

(Television may cause changes in some schedules after Athlon's publication date. 1982 records do not include bowl games.)

INDEPENDENTS AND OTHER CONFERENCES

Akron
Akron, Ohio
(6-5-0)
S. 3 Kent State +*
S. 10 Eastern Mich. *
S. 17 Western Ky. +*
S. 24 Eastern Ky.
O. 1 Middle Tenn. +*
O. 8 Eastern Ill. +*
O. 15 Morehead St.
O. 22 Murray St. +*
O. 29 Tenn. Tech
N. 5 Youngstown St. +*
N. 19 Austin Peay

Appalachian St.
Boone, N.C.
(4-7-0)
S. 3 Wake Forest *
S. 10 James Madison +
S. 17 Va. Military +
S. 24 Citadel *
O. 1 East Tenn. St. *
O. 8 Tenn.-Chattanooga +
O. 15 Gardner-Webb +
O. 22 Furman
N. 5 North Carolina St.
N. 12 Marshall +
N. 19 Western Caro.

Arkansas State
State University, Ark.
(5-6-0)
S. 3 Tenn.-Martin +*
S. 10 Tenn.-Chattanooga *
S. 17 Texas A&M *
S. 24 NE Louisiana *
O. 1 Southern Ill. +
O. 8 North Texas St. @*
O. 15 Louisiana Tech +*
O. 22 McNeese St. *
O. 29 Texas-Arlington +*
N. 12 Lamar *
N. 19 Memphis St.
@ Little Rock, Ark.

Austin Peay St.
Clarksville, Tenn.
(3-7-0)
S. 10 Tenn.-Martin *
S. 17 Kentucky St. +*
S. 24 Western Ky. +*
O. 1 Eastern Ky.
O. 8 Morehead St.
O. 15 Youngstown St.
O. 22 Middle Tenn. +*
O. 29 Central Florida +
N. 5 Murray St. +
N. 12 Tenn. Tech
N. 19 Akron +

Ball State
Muncie, Ind.
(5-6-0)
S. 3 Rhode Island +
S. 10 Wichita St. +
S. 17 Ohio
S. 24 Toledo *
O. 1 Northern Ill. +
O. 8 Indiana St. *
O. 15 Kent State
O. 22 Western Mich.
O. 29 Eastern Mich. +
N. 5 Bowling Green
N. 12 Central Mich. +

Boise State
Boise, Idaho
(8-3-0)
S. 3 Fullerton St. +*
S. 10 Eastern Wash. +*
S. 17 Montana
S. 24 Nevada-Reno
O. 1 Cal Poly SLO +*
O. 15 Utah State
O. 22 Montana St. +*
O. 29 Weber St.
N. 5 Idaho St. +
N. 12 Northern Ariz. +
N. 19 Idaho *

Boston
Boston, Mass.
(5-5-0)
S. 10 Holy Cross
S. 17 New Hampshire +*
S. 24 Maine
O. 1 Colgate
O. 8 Richmond
O. 15 Rhode Island +
O. 22 Massachusetts
O. 29 Cornell +
N. 5 Connecticut +
N. 12 Bucknell +

Bowling Green St.
Bowling Green, Ohio
(7-4-0)
S. 10 Fresno St. *
S. 17 Brigham Young
S. 24 Miami, O. +
O. 1 Eastern Mich.
O. 8 Toledo +
O. 15 Western Mich.
O. 22 Northern Ill.
O. 29 Central Mich. +
N. 5 Ball State +
N. 12 Ohio
N. 19 Kent State +

Brown
Providence, R.I.
(5-5-0)
S. 17 Yale
S. 24 Rhode Island +
O. 1 Princeton +
O. 8 Pennsylvania
O. 15 Cornell +
O. 22 Holy Cross
O. 29 Harvard +
N. 5 Penn State
N. 12 Dartmouth
N. 19 Columbia +

Bucknell
Lewisburg, Pa.
(4-6-0)
S. 10 Howard +
S. 17 Merchant Marine +
S. 24 Princeton
O. 1 Lafayette
O. 8 New Hampshire +
O. 22 Columbia @
O. 29 Lehigh +
N. 5 Davidson +
N. 12 Boston U.
N. 19 Delaware
@ Hempstead, N.Y.

Central Michigan
Mt. Pleasant, Mich.
(6-4-1)
S. 3 Kentucky
S. 17 Northern Mich. +
S. 24 Western Mich.
O. 1 Kent State +
O. 8 Eastern Mich. +
O. 15 Ohio
O. 22 Miami, O. +
O. 29 Bowling Green
N. 5 Northern Ill. +
N. 12 Ball State
N. 19 Toledo *

Cincinnati
Cincinnati, Ohio
(6-5-0)
S. 10 Penn State
S. 17 Oklahoma St. +*
S. 24 Louisville *
O. 1 Cornell +*
O. 8 Temple +*
O. 15 Florida St. *
O. 22 Miami, Fla. +
O. 29 Kentucky *
N. 5 Rutgers +
N. 12 Memphis St. +
N. 19 Miami, O.

The Citadel
Charleston, S.C.
(5-6-0)
S. 10 Presbyterian +*
S. 17 North Carolina St. *
S. 24 Appalachian St. +*
O. 1 Tennessee @
O. 8 Va. Military
O. 15 Tenn.-Chattanooga *
O. 22 Davidson +
O. 29 Marshall
N. 5 Western Caro. +
N. 12 East Tenn. St. *
N. 19 Furman +
@ Memphis, Tenn.

Coast Guard
New London, Conn.
(2-7-0)
S. 10 Western Conn. *
S. 17 Rensselaer Poly
S. 24 WPI +
O. 1 Norwich +
O. 8 Wesleyan
O. 15 Marist +*
O. 22 Bowdoin
O. 29 Trinity, Conn. +
N. 5 Merchant Marine +
N. 12 Hofstra

Colgate
Hamilton, N.Y.
(7-3-0)
S. 10 Army
S. 17 Lehigh +
S. 24 Cornell
O. 1 Boston U. +
O. 8 Holy Cross
O. 15 Rutgers
O. 22 Wyoming
O. 29 Lafayette
N. 5 Pennsylvania
N. 12 Richmond +
N. 19 Connecticut

Columbia
New York, N.Y.
(1-9-0)
S. 17 Harvard
S. 24 Lafayette
O. 1 Pennsylvania @
O. 8 Princeton
O. 15 Yale
O. 22 Bucknell %
O. 29 Holy Cross
N. 5 Dartmouth @
N. 12 Cornell
N. 19 Brown
@ East Rutherford, N.J.
% Hempstead, N.Y.

Connecticut
Storrs, Conn.
(5-6-0)
S. 17 Northeastern
S. 24 Yale
O. 1 New Hampshire +
O. 8 Lehigh
O. 15 Holy Cross +
O. 22 Maine
O. 29 Massachusetts +
N. 5 Rhode Island
N. 12 Rhode Island
N. 19 Colgate +

Cornell
Ithaca, N.Y.
(4-6-0)
S. 17 Pennsylvania
S. 24 Colgate +
O. 1 Cincinnati *
O. 8 Harvard +
O. 15 Brown
O. 22 Dartmouth
O. 29 Boston U.
N. 5 Yale +
N. 12 Columbia +
N. 19 Princeton

Dartmouth
Hanover, N.H.
(5-5-0)
S. 17 Princeton +
S. 24 Army
O. 1 Holy Cross +
O. 8 William & Mary +
O. 15 Harvard
O. 22 Cornell +
O. 29 Yale
N. 5 Columbia @
N. 12 Brown +
N. 19 Pennsylvania
@ East Rutherford, N.J.

Davidson
Davidson, N.C.
(3-7-0)
S. 10 Wofford
S. 17 Lafayette +
S. 24 Newberry
O. 1 James Madison
O. 8 Guilford
O. 15 South Carolina St. +
O. 22 Citadel
O. 29 Furman +
N. 5 Bucknell
N. 12 Catawba +

Delaware
Newark, Del.
(10-1-0)
S. 10 West Chester +
S. 17 William & Mary
S. 24 Pennsylvania +
O. 1 Lehigh +
O. 8 Massachusetts +
O. 15 Towson St. +
O. 22 Temple +
O. 29 James Madison
N. 5 Rhode Island
N. 12 Holy Cross +
N. 19 Bucknell +

Drake
Des Moines, Iowa
(4-7-0)
S. 3 Northern Iowa *
S. 10 South Dakota St. +
S. 17 Western Ill. *
S. 24 Illinois St. +
O. 1 Wichita St. *
O. 8 Southern Ill.
O. 15 New Mexico St. *
O. 22 SW Missouri +
O. 29 West Texas St. +
N. 5 Tulsa +
N. 12 Indiana St. +

East Carolina
Greenville, N.C.
(7-4-0)
S. 3 Florida St. *
S. 10 North Carolina St. *
S. 17 Murray St. +*
O. 1 Missouri
O. 8 SW Louisiana +
O. 15 Temple
O. 22 Florida
O. 29 East Tenn. St. +
N. 12 William & Mary +
N. 19 Southern Miss *
N. 26 Miami, Fla.

Eastern Kentucky
Richmond, Ky.
(10-0-0)
S. 3 East Tenn. St. +
S. 10 Youngstown St. *
S. 17 SW Texas
S. 24 Akron +
O. 1 Austin Peay +
O. 8 Middle Tenn.
O. 22 Western Ky. +
O. 29 Murray St.
N. 5 Tenn. Tech +
N. 12 Morehead St.

Eastern Michigan
Ypsilanti, Mich.
(1-9-1)
S. 3 Marshall +*
S. 10 Akron +*
S. 24 Ohio
O. 1 Bowling Green +
O. 8 Central Mich.
O. 15 Northern Ill. +
O. 22 Toledo +
O. 29 Ball State
N. 5 Kent State
N. 12 Miami, O. +
N. 19 Western Mich.

East Tennessee St.
Johnson City, Tenn.
(2-9-0)
S. 3 Eastern Ky.
S. 10 Tenn. Tech +*
S. 24 Western Caro. *
O. 1 Appalachian St. +*
O. 8 Marshall *
O. 15 Ga. Southern +
O. 22 Va. Military
O. 29 East Carolina
N. 5 Furman
N. 12 Citadel +*
N. 19 Tenn.-Chattanooga +*

Florida State
Tallahassee, Fla.
(8-3-0)
S. 3 East Carolina +*
S. 10 Louisiana St. *
S. 17 Tulane
O. 1 Auburn
O. 8 Pittsburgh
O. 15 Cincinnati +*
O. 22 Louisville +*
O. 29 Arizona St. *
N. 5 South Carolina +*
N. 12 Miami, Fla. +*
D. 3 Florida

Fresno State
Fresno, Calif.
(10-1-0)
S. 10 Bowling Green +*
S. 17 Nevada-Reno +*
S. 24 Pacific *
O. 1 Utah State
O. 8 San Jose St. +*
O. 15 Montana St.
O. 22 Fullerton St. +*
O. 29 Cal Poly SLO +
N. 5 Nevada-Las Vegas +
N. 12 Long Beach St.
N. 19 Northern Ariz. +

Fullerton St.
Fullerton, Calif.
(3-9-0)
S. 3 Boise St. *
S. 10 Long Beach St. +
S. 17 Utah State
S. 24 Arizona *
O. 1 Pacific +
O. 8 Nevada-Reno
O. 15 San Jose St. *
O. 22 Fresno St. *
O. 29 Idaho St. *
N. 5 Utah
N. 12 Nevada-Las Vegas +

Furman
Greenville, S.C.
(9-2-0)
S. 3 South Carolina St. *
S. 10 Carson-Newman +
S. 17 Georgia Tech
S. 24 Marshall +
O. 1 Va. Military
O. 15 Western Caro. *
O. 22 Appalachian St. +
O. 29 Davidson
N. 5 East Tenn. St. +
N. 12 Tenn.-Chattanooga +
N. 19 Citadel

Grambling
Grambling, La.
(8-3-0)
S. 3 Alcorn St. +
S. 10 Southern Meth. @*
S. 17 Morgan St. %
O. 1 Prairie View +
O. 8 Tennessee St. *
O. 15 Miss. Valley St. +*
O. 22 Jackson St.
O. 29 Tex. Southern +*
N. 5 Alabama St. *
N. 12 South Carolina St. +*
N. 26 Southern U. ¢
@ Shreveport, La.
% New York, N.Y.
¢ New Orleans, La.

Harvard
Cambridge, Mass.
(7-3-0)
S. 3 Columbia +
S. 24 Massachusetts +
O. 1 Army +
O. 8 Cornell
O. 15 Dartmouth +
O. 22 Princeton +
O. 29 Brown
N. 5 Holy Cross +
N. 12 Pennsylvania +
N. 19 Yale

Holy Cross
Worcester, Mass.
(8-3-0)
S. 10 Boston U. +
S. 17 Massachusetts
S. 24 New Hampshire
O. 1 Dartmouth
O. 8 Colgate +
O. 15 Connecticut
O. 22 Brown +
O. 29 Columbia +
N. 5 Harvard
N. 12 Delaware
N. 19 Boston Col. @
@ Cambridge, Mass.

Idaho
Moscow, Idaho
(8-3-0)
S. 10 Southern Colo. +*
S. 17 Montana St.
S. 24 Idaho St. *
O. 1 Eastern Wash. +*
O. 8 Portland St. *
O. 15 Weber St. *
O. 22 Montana +
O. 29 Pacific
N. 5 Northern Ariz. *
N. 12 Nevada-Reno +*
N. 19 Boise St. +*

Idaho State
Pocatello, Idaho
(5-8-0)
S. 10 Texas-El Paso *
S. 17 Eastern Wash.
S. 24 Idaho +*
O. 1 Nevada-Reno
O. 8 Montana St. +*
O. 15 Northern Ariz. +*
O. 22 Cal Poly SLO *
O. 29 Fullerton St. +*
N. 5 Boise St.
N. 12 Weber St. +*
N. 19 Montana

Illinois State
Normal, Ill.
(2-9-0)
S. 3 Eastern Ill. +*
S. 10 Marshall *
S. 17 Western Mich. +*
S. 24 Drake
O. 1 Indiana St. +
O. 8 West Texas St. *
O. 15 Tulsa *
O. 22 Nicholls St. *
O. 29 Western Ill. +
N. 5 Southern Ill.
N. 12 SW Missouri +

Indiana State
Terre Haute, Ind.
(5-6-0)
S. 3 NE Louisiana +*
S. 10 Northern Iowa +*
S. 17 Florida *
S. 24 Central Mo. +*
O. 1 Illinois St.
O. 8 Ball State +*
O. 15 Wichita St. +*
O. 22 Southern Ill. +
O. 29 Eastern Ill.
N. 5 West Texas St.
N. 12 Drake

Kent State
Kent, Ohio
(0-11-0)
S. 3 Akron *
S. 10 Syracuse *
S. 24 Northern Ill. +
O. 1 Central Mich.
O. 8 Miami, O.
O. 15 Ball State +
O. 22 Ohio +
O. 29 Toledo *
N. 5 Eastern Mich. +
N. 12 Western Mich. +
N. 19 Bowling Green

Lafayette
Easton, Pa.
(7-3-0)
S. 10 East Stroudsburg +
S. 17 Davidson
S. 24 Columbia +
O. 1 Bucknell +
O. 8 Maine +
O. 15 Pennsylvania
O. 22 James Madison
O. 29 Colgate +
N. 5 Princeton
N. 12 Kutztown St. +
N. 19 Lehigh

Lamar
Beaumont, Texas
(4-7-0)
S. 3 Nicholls St. *
S. 10 Stephen F. Austin +*
S. 17 Houston *
S. 24 Louisiana Tech *
O. 1 Tex. Southern +*
O. 8 NE Louisiana +*
O. 15 Texas-Arlington
O. 22 SW Louisiana *
N. 5 North Texas St.
N. 12 Arkansas St. +*
N. 19 McNeese St. +*

Lehigh
Bethlehem, Pa.
(4-6-0)
S. 10 Northeastern +
S. 17 Colgate
S. 24 Navy
O. 1 Delaware
O. 8 Connecticut +
O. 15 New Hampshire
O. 22 Army
O. 29 Bucknell
N. 5 Massachusetts +
N. 12 East Stroudsburg +
N. 19 Lafayette +

Long Beach St.
Long Beach, Calif.
(6-5-0)
S. 3 Kansas St.
S. 10 Fullerton St.
S. 17 Hawaii *
O. 1 SW Louisiana +
O. 8 San Diego St.
O. 15 Pacific *
O. 22 San Jose St. +
N. 5 Montana
N. 12 Fresno St. +
N. 19 Nevada-Las Vegas
N. 26 Utah State +

Louisiana Tech
Ruston, La.
(9-2-0)
S. 10 New Mexico St. *
S. 17 Southern Miss *
S. 24 Lamar +*
O. 1 Tenn.-Chattanooga +*
O. 8 McNeese St. +*
O. 15 Arkansas St. *
O. 22 NW Louisiana @*
O. 29 North Texas St.
N. 5 NE Louisiana +*
N. 12 Texas-Arlington
N. 19 SW Louisiana *
@ Shreveport, La.

Louisville
Louisville, Ky.
(5-6-0)
S. 3 Southern Meth. *
S. 10 Western Ky. +*
S. 17 Army +*
S. 24 Cincinnati +*
O. 1 Virginia Tech
O. 8 Miami, Fla.
O. 15 Pittsburgh +*
O. 22 Florida St. *
N. 5 Southern Miss +
N. 12 Temple

Maine
Orono, Me.
(7-4-0)
S. 17 Rhode Island
S. 24 Boston U. +
O. 1 Towson St. +
O. 8 Lafayette
O. 15 Massachusetts
O. 22 Connecticut +
O. 29 Northeastern
N. 5 New Hampshire +
N. 19 Springfield +

Marshall
Huntington, W.Va.
(3-8-0)
S. 3 Eastern Mich. *
S. 10 Illinois St. +*
S. 17 Morehead St.
S. 24 Furman
O. 1 Western Caro. +*
O. 8 East Tenn. St. +*
O. 22 Tenn.-Chattanooga *
O. 29 Citadel +
N. 5 William & Mary +
N. 12 Appalachian St.
N. 19 Va. Military +

Massachusetts
Amherst, Mass.
(5-6-0)
S. 10 Toledo *
S. 17 Holy Cross +
S. 24 Harvard
O. 1 Rhode Island +
O. 8 Delaware
O. 15 Maine +
O. 22 Boston U. +
O. 29 Connecticut
N. 5 Lehigh
N. 12 New Hampshire
N. 19 Northeastern

McNeese St.
Lake Charles, La.
(4-6-1)
S. 3 NW Louisiana *
S. 10 SE Louisiana *
S. 17 West Texas St. +*
S. 24 Nicholls St. +*
O. 8 Louisiana Tech *
O. 15 North Texas St. +*
O. 22 Arkansas St. +*
O. 29 NE Louisiana *
N. 5 Texas-Arlington +*
N. 12 SW Louisiana *
N. 19 Lamar *

Memphis St.
Memphis, Tenn.
(1-10-0)
S. 3 Mississippi +*
S. 10 North Carolina
S. 17 Virginia Tech +*
O. 1 Alabama
O. 8 Tulane +*
O. 15 Southern Miss +*
O. 29 Vanderbilt
N. 5 Mississippi St.
N. 12 Cincinnati
N. 19 Arkansas St. +

Miami (Fla.)
Coral Gables, Fla.
(7-4-0)
S. 3 Florida *
S. 10 Houston
S. 17 Purdue +*
S. 24 Notre Dame +*
O. 1 Duke
O. 8 Louisville +
O. 15 Mississippi St.
O. 22 Cincinnati
O. 29 West Virginia +
N. 12 Florida St. *
N. 19 East Carolina +

Miami (Ohio)
Oxford, Ohio
(7-4-0)
S. 10 South Carolina *
S. 17 North Carolina
S. 24 Bowling Green
O. 1 Western Mich. +
O. 8 Kent State +
O. 15 Toledo
O. 22 Central Mich.
O. 29 Northern Ill. +
N. 5 Ohio +
N. 12 Eastern Mich.
N. 19 Cincinnati +

Middle Tennessee St.
Murfreesboro, Tenn.
(8-3-0)
S. 3 Savannah St. +
S. 17 Tenn.-Martin *
S. 24 Morehead St.
O. 1 Akron *
O. 8 Eastern Ky. +
O. 15 Murray St. +
O. 22 Austin Peay *
O. 29 Youngstown St. +
N. 5 Western Ky. +
N. 19 Tenn. Tech

Montana
Missoula, Mont.
(6-5-0)
S. 17 Boise St. +
S. 24 Portland St. +
O. 1 Northern Ariz. *
O. 8 Weber St. +
O. 15 Nevada-Reno +
O. 22 Idaho St. *
O. 29 Montana St.
N. 5 Long Beach St. +
N. 12 Eastern Wash. @
N. 19 Idaho St. +
@ Spokane, Wash.

Montana St.
Bozeman, Mont.
(6-5-0)
S. 3 Washington St. @
S. 10 North Dakota
S. 17 Idaho +
S. 24 Northern Ariz. *
O. 1 Weber St. +
O. 8 Idaho St. *
O. 15 Fresno St. +
O. 22 Boise St. *
O. 29 Montana +
N. 5 Eastern Wash. +
N. 19 Nevada-Reno
@ Spokane, Wash.

Morehead St.
Morehead, Ky.
(5-6-0)
S. 10 Kentucky St.
S. 17 Marshall +
S. 24 Middle Tenn. +
O. 1 Murray St.
O. 8 Austin Peay +
O. 15 Akron +
O. 22 Tenn. Tech
O. 29 Western Ky.
N. 5 Liberty Bapt. +
N. 12 Eastern Ky. +
N. 19 Youngstown St.

Murray St.
Murray, Ky.
(4-7-0)
S. 3 SE Missouri *
S. 17 East Carolina *
S. 24 Tennessee Tech +*
O. 1 Morehead St. +
O. 8 SW Missouri +
O. 15 Middle Tenn.
O. 22 Akron *
O. 29 Eastern Ky. +
N. 5 Austin Peay
N. 12 Youngstown St. +
N. 19 Western Ky.

Nevada-Las Vegas
Las Vegas, Nev.
(3-8-0)
S. 3 Nevada-Reno +*
S. 10 San Jose St. *
S. 17 Pacific +*
S. 24 Washington St. @
O. 1 Oregon St.
O. 15 Hawaii +
O. 22 Idaho St. *
O. 29 San Diego St. +
N. 5 Fresno St.
N. 12 Fullerton St.
N. 19 Long Beach St. +
@ Spokane, Wash.

Nevada-Reno
Reno, Nev.
(6-5-0)
S. 3 Nevada-Las Vegas *
S. 17 Fresno St. *
S. 24 Boise St. +
O. 1 Idaho St. +
O. 8 Fullerton St. +
O. 15 Montana
O. 22 Weber St. +
O. 29 Northern Ariz. *
N. 5 Pacific +
N. 12 Idaho *
N. 19 Montana St. +

New Hampshire
Durham, N.H.
(4-6-0)
S. 10 American Int'l +
S. 17 Boston U. *
S. 24 Holy Cross +
O. 1 Connecticut
O. 8 Bucknell
O. 15 Lehigh +
O. 22 Northeastern +
O. 29 Rhode Island
N. 5 Maine
N. 12 Massachusetts

New Mexico St.
Las Cruces, N.M.
(3-8-0)
S. 3 Texas-El Paso *
S. 10 Louisiana Tech +*
S. 24 New Mexico +*
O. 1 Iowa State
O. 8 Tulsa *
O. 15 Drake +*
O. 22 North Texas St.
O. 29 Southern Ill.
N. 5 Wichita St. +
N. 19 West Texas St. +

North Dakota
Grand Forks, N.D.
(7-3-0)
S. 3 Michigan Tech +
S. 10 Montana St. +
S. 17 Augustana, S.D. *
S. 24 South Dakota St. +
O. 1 Northern Colo.
O. 8 Mankato St. +
O. 15 St. Cloud St.
O. 22 Neb.-Omaha +
O. 29 North Dakota St.
N. 5 South Dakota *
N. 12 Morningside

North Dakota St.
Fargo, N.D.
(11-0-0)
S. 3 Northern Mich.
S. 17 Mankato St. *
S. 24 Augustana, S.D. +*
O. 1 Neb.-Omaha *
O. 8 South Dakota +
O. 15 South Dakota St.
O. 22 Northern Colo. +
O. 29 North Dakota +
N. 5 Morningside
N. 12 St. Cloud St. +

North Texas St.
Denton, Texas
(2-9-0)
S. 3 West Texas St. +*
S. 10 Oklahoma St.
S. 24 Texas *
O. 1 New Mexico *
O. 8 Arkansas St. @*
O. 15 McNeese St. *
O. 22 New Mexico St. +
O. 29 Louisiana Tech +
N. 5 Lamar *
N. 12 NE Louisiana *
N. 19 Texas-Arlington +
@ Little Rock, Ark.

Northeast Louisiana
Monroe, La.
(8-3-0)
S. 3 Indiana St. *
S. 10 SW Louisiana +*
S. 17 Texas-Arlington *
S. 24 Arkansas St. +*
O. 8 Lamar *
O. 15 Nicholls St. +
O. 22 SE Louisiana
O. 29 McNeese St. +*
N. 5 Louisiana Tech *
N. 12 North Texas St. +*
N. 19 NW Louisiana *

Northern Arizona
Flagstaff, Ariz.
(4-7-0)
S. 10 Southern Utah +*
S. 17 Weber St. *
S. 24 Montana St. +*
O. 1 Montana +*
O. 15 Idaho St. *
O. 22 Pacific *
O. 29 Nevada-Reno +*
N. 5 Idaho +*
N. 12 Boise St.
N. 19 Fresno St.

Northern Illinois
De Kalb, Ill.
(5-5-0)
S. 5 Kansas
S. 10 Wisconsin
S. 24 Kent State
O. 1 Ball State
O. 8 Western Mich. +*
O. 15 Eastern Mich.
O. 22 Bowling Green +
O. 29 Miami, O.
N. 5 Central Mich.
N. 12 Toledo +
N. 19 Ohio +

Northwestern St.
Natchitoches, La.
(6-5-0)
S. 3 McNeese St. +*
S. 10 Angelo St. +*
S. 17 Tulsa *
S. 24 Abilene Christian *
O. 1 Stephen F. Austin +*
O. 8 SW Texas *
O. 15 Alcorn St. @*
O. 22 Louisiana Tech %*
N. 5 Nicholls St. *
N. 12 SE Louisiana +*
N. 19 NE Louisiana +*
@ Jackson, Miss.
% Shreveport, La.

Notre Dame
Notre Dame, Ind.
(6-4-1)
S. 10 Purdue
S. 17 Michigan St. +
S. 24 Miami, Fla. +
O. 1 Navy
O. 8 South Carolina *
O. 15 Army @
O. 22 Southern Cal +
O. 29 Navy +
N. 5 Pittsburgh +
N. 12 Penn State
N. 19 Air Force +
@ East Rutherford, N.J.

Ohio
Athens, Ohio
(6-5-0)
S. 3 West Virginia
S. 10 Richmond
S. 17 Ball State +
S. 24 Eastern Mich. +
O. 1 Toledo *
O. 15 Central Mich. +
O. 22 Kent State
O. 29 Western Mich. +
N. 5 Miami, O. +
N. 12 Bowling Green +
N. 19 Northern Ill.

Pacific
Stockton, Calif.
(2-9-0)
S. 3 Oregon
S. 10 West Virginia
S. 17 Nevada-Las Vegas *
S. 24 Fresno St. +*
O. 1 Fullerton St.
O. 8 Utah State +*
O. 15 Long Beach St. +*
O. 22 Northern Ariz. +*
O. 29 Idaho +
N. 5 Nevada-Reno
N. 12 San Jose St. *
N. 19 Hawaii *

Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, Pa.
(7-3-0)
S. 17 Cornell +
S. 24 Delaware
O. 1 Columbia @
O. 8 Brown +
O. 15 Lafayette +
O. 22 Yale
O. 29 Princeton +
N. 5 Colgate +
N. 12 Harvard
N. 19 Dartmouth +
@ East Rutherford, N.J.

Princeton
Princeton, N.J.
(3-7-0)
S. 17 Dartmouth
S. 24 Bucknell +
O. 1 Brown
O. 8 Columbia +
O. 15 Navy +
O. 22 Harvard
O. 29 Pennsylvania
N. 5 Lafayette +
N. 12 Yale +
N. 19 Cornell +

Rhode Island
Kingston, R.I.
(7-4-0)
S. 3 Ball State
S. 17 Maine +
S. 24 Brown
O. 1 Massachusetts
O. 8 Northeastern +
O. 15 Boston U.
O. 22 Southern Conn. +
O. 29 New Hampshire +
N. 5 Delaware +
N. 12 Connecticut +

Richmond
Richmond, Va.
(0-11-0)
S. 3 Southern Miss *
S. 10 Ohio +
S. 17 Toledo +
S. 24 Wake Forest +
O. 1 Rutgers
O. 8 Boston U. +
O. 22 Virginia Tech
O. 29 Va. Military
N. 5 James Madison +
N. 12 Colgate +
N. 19 William & Mary

San Jose St.
San Jose, Calif.
(8-3-0)
S. 10 Nevada-Las Vegas +*
S. 17 California
S. 24 Stanford
O. 1 Oregon +*
O. 8 Fresno St. *
O. 15 Fullerton St. +*
O. 22 Long Beach St.
N. 5 Utah State
N. 12 Pacific +*
N. 19 Arizona St. *
N. 26 SW Louisiana +*

South Carolina
Columbia, S.C.
(5-6-0)
S. 3 North Carolina +*
S. 10 Miami, O. +*
S. 17 Duke
S. 24 Georgia
O. 1 Southern Cal +*
O. 8 Notre Dame *
O. 22 Louisiana St. *
O. 29 North Carolina St. +
N. 5 Florida St. *
N. 12 Navy +
N. 19 Clemson +

South Dakota
Vermillion, S.D.
(6-5-0)
S. 3 Wyoming
S. 10 NE Missouri +*
S. 17 Neb.-Omaha *
S. 24 St. Cloud St.
O. 1 Morningside +*
O. 8 North Dakota St.
O. 15 Northern Colo.
O. 22 Mankato St. +
O. 29 South Dakota St.
N. 5 North Dakota *
N. 12 Augustana, S.D.

South Dakota St.
Brookings, S.D.
(4-6-0)
S. 3 Mankato St. +
S. 10 Drake
S. 24 North Dakota
O. 1 St. Cloud St. +
O. 8 Neb.-Omaha *
O. 15 North Dakota St. +
O. 29 South Dakota +
N. 5 Mankato St.
N. 12 Northern Colo. +

SE Louisiana
Hammond, La.
(4-7-0)
S. 3 Mississippi Col. +*
S. 10 McNeese St. +*
S. 17 Central Florida +*
O. 1 Western Ky.
O. 8 Troy State *
O. 15 Tex. Southern *
O. 22 NE Louisiana +
O. 29 Jackson St. +*
N. 5 Southern U. *
N. 12 NW Louisiana *
N. 19 Nicholls St. +*

Southern Illinois
Carbondale, Ill.
(6-5-0)
S. 3 Western Ill. *
S. 10 Eastern Ill. +
S. 17 SE Missouri +
S. 24 Northern Iowa *
O. 1 Arkansas St.
O. 8 Drake +
O. 15 SW Missouri
O. 22 Indiana St.
O. 29 New Mexico St. +
N. 5 Illinois St. +
N. 12 Wichita St.

Southern Miss
Hattiesburg, Miss.
(7-4-0)
S. 3 Richmond +*
S. 10 Auburn
S. 17 Louisiana Tech +*
O. 1 Mississippi
O. 8 Mississippi St. @
O. 15 Memphis St. *
O. 22 Tulane +*
O. 29 SW Louisiana +*
N. 5 Louisville
N. 12 Alabama %
N. 19 East Carolina +*
@ Jackson, Miss.
% Birmingham, Ala.

SW Louisiana
Lafayette, La.
(7-3-1)
S. 10 NE Louisiana *
S. 17 Tenn.-Chattanooga +*
S. 24 Rice *
O. 1 Long Beach St.
O. 8 East Carolina
O. 15 Tulane
O. 22 Lamar +*
O. 29 Southern Miss *
N. 5 McNeese St. +*
N. 19 Louisiana Tech +*
N. 26 San Jose St. *

Tenn.-Chattanooga
Chattanooga, Tenn.
(7-4-0)
S. 10 Arkansas St. +*
S. 17 SW Louisiana *
O. 1 Louisiana Tech *
O. 8 Appalachian St.
O. 15 Citadel +*
O. 22 Marshall +*
O. 29 Western Caro.
N. 5 Va. Military +*
N. 12 Furman
N. 19 East Tenn. St. *

Tennessee St.
Nashville, Tenn.
(9-0-1)
S. 3 Hampton Inst. +*
S. 10 Jackson St. *
S. 17 Alabama A&M *
S. 24 Florida A&M *
O. 1 Alabama St. +*
O. 8 Grambling +*
O. 22 Bethune-Cookman *
O. 29 Southern U. *
N. 5 District of Col. +
N. 12 Miss. Valley St. @
N. 19 N.C. A&T
@ Memphis, Tenn.

Tennessee Tech
Cookeville, Tenn.
(3-8-0)
S. 10 East Tenn. St. *
S. 17 Youngstown St. +*
S. 24 Murray St. *
O. 1 Tenn.-Martin +*
O. 8 Western Caro. +
O. 15 Western Ky.
O. 22 Morehead St. +
O. 29 Akron +
N. 5 Eastern Ky.
N. 12 Austin Peay +
N. 19 Middle Tenn. +

Texas-Arlington
Arlington, Texas
(5-8-0)
S. 10 Western Mich. +*
S. 17 NE Louisiana +*
S. 24 West Texas St. +*
O. 1 Southern Meth.
O. 8 Wichita St. +*
O. 15 Lamar +
O. 29 Arkansas St. *
N. 5 McNeese St. *
N. 12 Louisiana Tech +
N. 19 North Texas St.

Toledo
Toledo, Ohio
(6-5-0)
S. 10 Massachusetts +*
S. 17 Richmond
S. 24 Ball State +*
O. 1 Ohio +*
O. 8 Bowling Green
O. 15 Miami, O. +
O. 22 Eastern Mich.
O. 29 Kent State +*
N. 5 Western Mich.
N. 12 Northern Ill.
N. 19 Central Mich. +*

Tulane
New Orleans, La.
(4-6-0)
S. 3 Mississippi St.
S. 10 Mississippi +
S. 17 Florida St. +
S. 24 Kentucky
O. 1 Vanderbilt +
O. 8 Memphis St. *
O. 15 SW Louisiana +
O. 22 Southern Miss *
O. 29 Baylor
N. 5 Virginia Tech +
N. 19 Louisiana St. +

Tulsa
Tulsa, Okla.
(10-1-0)
S. 3 San Diego St. +*
S. 10 Arkansas
S. 17 NW Louisiana +*
S. 24 Oklahoma
O. 1 Oklahoma St.
O. 8 New Mexico St. +*
O. 15 Illinois St. +*
O. 22 Texas Tech *
O. 29 Wichita St. +*
N. 5 Drake
N. 12 West Texas St. +

Utah State
Logan, Utah
(5-6-0)
S. 10 Arizona St. *
S. 17 Fullerton St. +
S. 24 Missouri
O. 1 Fresno St. +
O. 8 Pacific *
O. 15 Boise St. +
O. 22 Nevada-Las Vegas
O. 29 Brigham Young
N. 5 San Jose St. +
N. 12 Utah +
N. 26 Long Beach St.

VMI
Lexington, Va.
(7-4-0)
S. 10 William & Mary +
S. 17 Appalachian St.
S. 24 Virginia Tech
O. 1 Furman +
O. 8 Citadel +
O. 15 Virginia *
O. 22 East Tenn. St. +
O. 29 Richmond +
N. 5 Tenn.-Chattanooga *
N. 19 Marshall

Virginia Tech
Blacksburg, Va.
(7-4-0)
S. 10 Wake Forest +
S. 17 Memphis St. *
S. 24 Va. Military +
O. 1 Louisville +
O. 8 Duke +
O. 15 West Virginia
O. 22 Richmond +
O. 29 William & Mary +
N. 5 Tulane
N. 12 Vanderbilt +
N. 19 Virginia

Western Carolina
Cullowhee, N.C.
(6-5-0)
S. 3 Clemson
S. 17 Wake Forest *
S. 24 East Tenn. St. +*
O. 1 Marshall *
O. 8 Tenn. Tech
O. 15 Furman +*
O. 22 Wofford +
O. 29 Tenn.-Chattanooga +
N. 5 Citadel
N. 19 Appalachian St. +

Western Kentucky
Bowling Green, Ky.
(5-5-0)
S. 10 Louisville *
S. 17 Akron *
S. 24 Austin Peay *
O. 1 SE Louisiana +
O. 8 Youngstown St.
O. 15 Tenn. Tech +
O. 22 Eastern Ky.
O. 29 Morehead St. +
N. 5 Middle Tenn.
N. 12 Eastern Ill. +
N. 19 Murray St. +

Western Michigan
Kalamazoo, Mich.
(7-2-2)
S. 10 Texas-Arlington *
S. 17 Illinois St. *
S. 24 Central Mich. +
O. 1 Miami, O.
O. 8 Northern Ill. +
O. 15 Bowling Green +
O. 22 Ball State +
O. 29 Ohio
N. 5 Toledo +
N. 12 Kent State
N. 19 Eastern Mich. +

West Texas St.
Canyon, Texas
(5-8-0)
S. 3 North Texas St. *
S. 10 Abilene Christian +*
S. 17 McNeese St. *
S. 24 Texas-Arlington +*
O. 1 Angelo St. +*
O. 8 Illinois St. +*
O. 22 Wichita St.
O. 29 Drake
N. 5 Indiana St. +

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Herschel Walker said yes, then no, then yes again to New Jersey's offer of $5 million for three years.

(USFL continued)

and head coach of the New Jersey team.

League owners also convinced Chet Simmons, former head of NBC sports and a pioneer in cable sports programming as president of ESPN, to become the league's first commissioner. Simmons' knowledge of the television industry obviously was a major factor in the owners turning to him for leadership, for television eventually will make or break the USFL.

Still, Simmons says he disagrees with "those who term the USFL a TV league. Look at the NFL and the billion-dollar contract they have with the networks. And I see that baseball negotiated for big-money contracts. There's not a league that exists right now that can survive without revenues and exposure from TV. In our case, the exposure is probably more important than the revenues."

Jim Spence, senior vice president of ABC sports, said his network is committed to carrying the USFL for two years and "whether we continue or not will be based on whether we think it has the potential to compete and get better. It all comes down to what's on the field. If the USFL is competitive and puts on exciting games, it should succeed."

Certainly, the new league was extremely competitive in signing top-caliber talent its first year.

The league shrewdly held its draft of college players last winter, long before the NFL draft in late April. The result: At least a dozen first- or second-round NFL caliber draft choices were selected and signed to play in the new league.

Among those players were North Carolina running back Kelvin Bryant, one of the league's bright stars, of Philadelphia; Tim Spencer, a fullback from Ohio State and Trumaine Johnson, a wide receiver from Grambling, of Chicago; Anthony Carter, All-America receiver from Michigan, and David Greenwood, All-America cornerback from Wisconsin, of the Michigan Panthers; and Craig James, a tailback from SMU, of Washington.

Of course, the league's most widely publicized signing occurred the week before the season opener. The New Jersey Generals managed to convince Georgia running back Herschel Walker to forego his senior season and sign a three-year, $5 million contract.

There were great howls of protest. Collegiate coaches were furious that the league would consider signing an undergraduate. Simmons tried to silence the critics by insisting that the new league had been approached originally by Walker and that he would be the exception, rather than the rule.

Still, Walker's signing added instant credibility to the league, even if the brilliant back started off as a part-time player and struggled in the Generals' early games. In the fifth game however, he gained 177 yards and scored three touchdowns, and there was no doubt that Walker would be a dominant player in the league as long as he stayed healthy.

The USFL also provided a second-chance

(continued)

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VIRGINIA TECH
WAKE FOREST
SEC and
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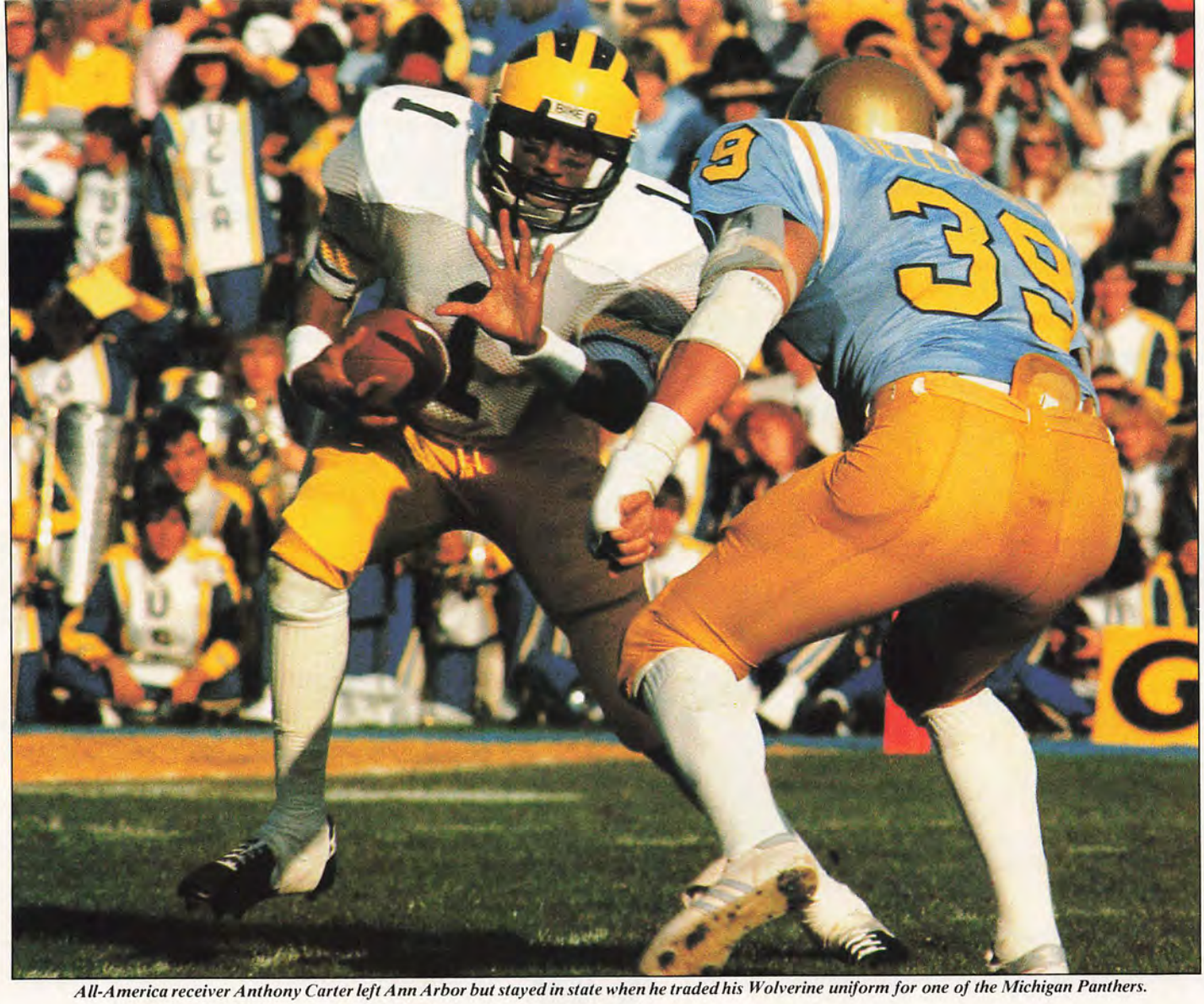


All-America receiver Anthony Carter left Ann Arbor but stayed in state when he traded his Wolverine uniform for one of the Michigan Panthers.

(USFL continued)

opportunity for a number of former NFL stars, not to mention wonderful leverage for current NFL players negotiating contracts.

The Super Bowl champion Washington Redskins, for example, wound up almost tripling the salary of linebacker Rich Milot after he had a legitimate offer for the same amount from the USFL's Philadelphia franchise.

And when John Riggins, hero of Washington's Super Bowl victory over Miami last January, became a free agent, he went shopping. The Michigan Panthers offered a $2 million contract, which the Redskins exceeded just to keep him in the nation's capital.

Other NFL free agents simply jumped to the new league. Stan White, Detroit's All-Pro linebacker, signed with the Chicago Blitz and was Allen's signal caller on defense. Pittsburgh wide receiver Jim Smith left the Steelers to play for the Birmingham Stallions and Cris Collinsworth and Dan Ross of the Bengals apparently are seriously considering joining the league when their contracts run out.

There were other names familiar to followers of the NFL.

Former Detroit and Baltimore Colt quarterback Greg Landry went to Chicago. Coy Bacon, 39-year-old former Redskin, was the Washington Federals' best pass rusher. Terry Miller, once a No. 1 draft choice at Buffalo, was a running back for Denver. Chuck Fusina, a backup in Tampa Bay for three seasons, was the Philadelphia Stars' starting quarterback. And John Reaves, who played for four NFL teams, called the signals for the Tampa Bay Bandits.

"We must bring about a major habit change, from watching in the fall to watching in the spring and summer."

The league drew large crowds at the start. The Federals had 40,000 for their home opener; Oakland had 50,000; New Jersey, 50,000. Those crowds tailed off considerably as the year wore on, but several teams had excellent season-ticket sales to fall back on. Denver, for example, had 33,000 season tickets sold to lead the league.

Television ratings also started high, obviously attributed to curiosity about the new league. They, too, dipped as the season wore on, but the figures, generally in the 6.0 area, were considered respectable by most TV executives. Spence, in fact, had said before the season even began that he expected the new league to be in the area of 5 to 5.5 (as compared to a 6.5 for baseball in the spring).

The break-even point was considered to be about 30,000 fans a game, but the league had a $16 million fund established by the owners to bolster the weaker franchises if the need arose. The league also will expand to four new cities in its second year of operation, including a Pittsburgh franchise that will be owned by the DeBartolo family of Youngstown, Ohio, owners of the San Francisco 49ers.

"We've got to get the fans to the stadiums and we've got to get them to come back," says Simmons. "To do that, we must bring about a major habit change, from watching in the fall to watching in the spring and summer. That's the essence of it."

END

(Dallas continued)
response of the members of the offensive line was a cold silence that said a great deal. And quarterback Danny White, who had taken a generally unpopular stance (among teammates) during the strike, was the target of dressing room criticism.

Dallas, for the first time in recent memory, seemed to be a team divided. Leadership, one of the key ingredients of championship success, was lacking. "Looking back," says Walls, "I think maybe we had too many superstars. We had too many people concerned over their reputations and how much money they were making or not making. We were distracted from our main goal, which was to make it to the Super Bowl."

White agrees. "We've got everything a team needs to go all the way," he says. "I'd match our talent with anyone. But I do think we need to develop strong leaders on this team, guys who have a good influence on the younger players."

White, entering his fourth year as the Dallas starter and coming off his first appearance in the Pro Bowl, is, of course, the obvious choice. But, if rumors mean anything, he might be involved in a battle for his job this season with backup Gary Hogeboom. A three-year reserve, Hogeboom came in to spark a slumbering Dallas attack in the second half of the NFC title game after White had left with a concussion. Hogeboom's impressive performance came just days after outspoken receiver Johnson had observed, "If Danny doesn't win the championship game in his third try, I think Landry ought to give Hogeboom a shot at the job."

Which is to say the Cowboys are no longer one big, happy family. Nor are they set at several key positions.

While most believe White will again emerge as the starting quarterback and Dorsett, who led all NFC rushers with 745 yards, will give the running game the promise of explosion, the fullback spot continues to trouble Landry. Ron Springs held the job last year despite his own admission that he'd rather play halfback, but he gained only 243 yards. Timmy Newsome, a three-year veteran converted from halfback, could challenge this year along with second-year man George Peoples.

The offensive line, led by All-Pros Pat Donovan and Herb Scott, could, if anything, be stronger in '83. If Robert Shaw returns to full speed after sitting out last season with knee problems, he could move into the starting center job, allowing Tom Rafferty to move back to his old job at guard. Jim Cooper continues to improve at right tackle, and both Kurt Petersen and Howard Richards now have considerable starting exposure as guards. Add depth provided by Glen Titensor, Steve Wright and Phil Pozderac, and things appear to be in good order up front.

Controversy aside, the wide receiver collection of Hill, Pearson and Johnson is outstanding. The same can be said for the tight end corps, which includes new starter Doug Cosbie and veteran Billy Joe DuPree, who has shelved retirement plans.

With his eyes wide open, Drew Pearson is pretty sure to set a Cowboy record for receiving yardage.

Heading the assault on enemy quarterbacks again will be right tackle Randy White, generally regarded as the finest defensive lineman in the game.

Others could emerge as contributing factors. Running back James Jones, who backed Dorsett so well two years ago, saw only spot duty in '82 because of leg problems but is expected to return at full speed. And Doug Donley, fastest player on the roster, is likely to be included in more passing patterns as Dallas tries to develop a long-ball game.

For years the defensive secondary was the focus of concern, but with the arrival of Walls and Dennis Thurman, who intercepted four passes during the playoffs, at cornerbacks and Michael Downs at free safety, it has become one of the team's strengths. Twelve-year veteran Benny Barnes returns at strong safety but will have to fight off third-year man Dextor Clinkscale. Backup strength will be ably provided by up-and-comers Monty Hunter and Ron Fellows.

The front four is the most celebrated in the league with each starter owning All-Pro credentials. Heading the assault on enemy quarterbacks again will be right tackle Randy White, generally regarded as the finest defensive lineman in the game. Working with him will be fellow tackle John Dutton, now comfortable in the Cowboy system after moving from Baltimore three years ago, and ends Ed "Too Tall" Jones and Harvey Martin.

There is, however, a lingering problem with depth. Don Smerek and Larry Bethea are the line veterans on hand to provide a break for the starters. Neither has shown that he could work full-time.

Landry and his staff are somewhat concerned about linebackers. There are doubts that starter Guy Brown, who earned the job just a year ago after five years of apprenticeship, will return. Troubled by a neck injury, Brown has indicated he may follow his doctor's advice and retire after six years, leaving the right side job to either Anthony Dickerson or Jeff Rohrer. Dickerson, however, has had problems adjusting to the demands of the flex, and Rohrer saw little action in his rookie 1982 season.

Mike Hegman returns at left linebacker after an up-and-down year and may get competition from Angelo King in training camp.

Only in the middle is Dallas solid with veteran Pro Bowler Bob Breunig back and capable Danny Spradlin set to serve as his backup again.

"We've got some areas of concern, just as we do every year," says Landry, "but we have the foundation for another good team. I thought last year could have been an exceptional one, but because of the strike we never got to find out.

"I'm sure this time we won't be favored to go to the Super Bowl. And there will be a lot written about the fact that we've now lost three straight NFC championship games. Hopefully, our players will take these things as new challenges."

END

KANSAS CITY

On the Tuesday prior to the Kansas City Chiefs' 1982 finale, cornerback Gary Green was married. The next day, he learned he'd been selected to play in the Pro Bowl. On Thursday, he got the word the Chiefs had voted him the team's Most Valuable Player. On Sunday, Green returned a lateraled interception 42 yards for the first touchdown of his NFL career. And that day, Kansas City upset the playoff-bound New York Jets 37-13.

"Well," Green said with a shrug afterward, "we had nothing to lose, except maybe a few players and some coaches."

For those of you who are counting, Gary Green was 5-for-5 that memorable week.

"I think we showed in the game with the Jets what kinds of weapons we had in our offense. I think I improved my rating something like 20 points over the season."

And Marv Levy was 0-for-5, the way K.C. executives and owners were counting. Shortly after Green had uttered his prophetic remark, Levy was fired. He had failed to put the Chiefs in the playoffs in five attempts. So beginning this fall, the team has a new head coach in John Mackovic, a new offensive philosophy and as Gary Green might phrase it, well, what have they got to lose?

For starters, they might lose one passer out of a two-quarterback rotation.

Mackovic led the Atlantic Coast Conference in total offense as a quarterback at Wake Forest. He arrived in Kansas City directly from the camp of the Dallas Cowboys, where he coached Tom Landry's quarterbacks. Mackovic claims that pro teams rise or fall on the proficiency of their passing games. He's now trying to identify the quarterback who can best lead the Chiefs to the playoffs.

Four times during a 10-game period spanning two seasons, Levy changed his starting quarterback from Bill Kenney to Steve Fuller and back again. Mackovic indicates the Chiefs need the stability of a one-quarterback system.

Please hold your applause until we have described both of the leading candidates for the job:

- Fuller, a four-year veteran, is a one-time Heisman Trophy and Rhodes Scholar candidate from Clemson, twice Player of the Year in the ACC and a first-round NFL draft choice.
- As late as his junior year at University of Northern Colorado, Kenney was a tight end. He was the next-to-last player selected in the 1978 NFL draft—by Miami. He was traded by the Dolphins and dropped by the Redskins before he found a home in K.C. as the third quarterback on the team.

And yet there were 11,902 scattered nominations for Kenney as K.C. Quarterback of the Future in Arrowhead Stadium last January. That was, as a matter of fact, the total attendance for the finale with the Jets. The loyal fans saw Kenney hit on 18 passes, including 11 straight, for 223 yards and three touchdowns.

"I think everybody has seen in the last two years why the two-quarterback system won't work," Kenney says. "Toward the end of last season, I thought I was playing well. I think we showed in the game with the Jets what kinds of weapons we had in our offense. I think I improved my rating something like 20 points over the season. I think I was just starting to prove myself."

Kenney's quarterback rating of 77.0 was seventh-best in the AFC last fall. Receiver Henry Marshall also ranked seventh among AFC pass receivers, with 40 catches for 549 yards.

Yet the '82 Chiefs were 26th of 28 NFL teams in offensive production and 15th in scoring.

That, obviously, is the area of chief concern for Mackovic.

"The key to pro football today is the passing game," he insists. "Not that you throw more than you run, but the key is to have a successful passing attack. Everybody is behind sooner or later. With the teams having such firepower to score,

(continued)

Steve Fuller is battling Bill Kenney for the job as the Chiefs' starting quarterback.

ELANEY

Pro Bowl end Art Still, a five-year veteran, was the Chiefs' leading tackler in 1982.

(Kansas City continued)

it is not uncommon to fall two touchdowns behind and still win. To do that, you must be able to throw the ball."

Kenney, for one, is happy to hear that offensive philosophy defined.

"I tried last year in the off-season to get together with Marv," he says. "I wanted to get to know what his offensive thinking was, get to understand some of the things he was trying to accomplish. I said, 'Let's meet once a week and discuss things.' We met one time and then it stopped.

"Maybe I'm asking for a relationship I can't have with a head coach. But I think it would make a big difference to me."

Kenney should find a compatible coach in Mackovic.

"It doesn't seem like I've done anything but play or coach the quarterbacks," says the new coach, who recalls that he started throwing the football in organized leagues at the age of 10.

Mackovic played three years at Wake Forest, and it was not surprising when he led the ACC in total offense.

In retrospect, though, it is surprising to learn that Mackovic was voted Most Inspirational Player on the team. Because playing in the same backfield was Brian Piccolo, later the subject of the poignant movie *Brian's Song.*

"Brian's death (of cancer at the age of 26, while a member of the Chicago Bears) was a real blow to me," Mackovic says. "He was definitely a leader in human relationships and so many other things."

After leaving Wake Forest, Mackovic was a student-assistant under a Miami of Ohio coach who later moved on to Michigan.

"Bo (Schembechler) used to yell at me all the time because I was coaching the freshmen, and he used to think we threw too many passes," Mackovic laughs.

He later coached under Jim Young at Arizona and Purdue, then returned to Wake Forest as head coach. Mackovic's first team went 1-10. In his second season, the Deacons won eight of 11 and were chosen to play in the Tangerine Bowl.

Mackovic's three-year record at Wake Forest showed 14 wins and 20 losses, but he was interviewed by several major colleges before deciding to accept the job as quarterback coach with the Cowboys.

"John has a brilliant, creative offensive mind, especially in the passing game," says Young, now coach at Army.

"He's very, very bright," says Tex Schramm, president of the Dallas Cowboys. "He's aggressive, mature for his age. I think he has a good touch with players and a lot of ambition."

Landry compares Mackovic with Joe Gibbs, young coach of the world champion Washington Redskins.

"John is a low-key type of coach—an offensive coach, as Gibbs is," Landry says. "John

knows the passing game and that will be his strength. Kansas City has a pretty good defense already."

The 1982 Chiefs did, in fact, finish with the fourth-best overall defense in the AFC, allowing 303 net yards per game. Most of the acclaim centered upon the defensive backfield. Free safety Gary Barbaro, a Pro Bowler, is now third on the all-time team interceptions list with 39. He has teamed with Pro Bowler Green, cornerback Eric Harris and strong safety Lloyd Burruss in mounting an aggressive pass defense.

"I don't know what the word 'can't' means," Mackovic was once quoted as professing.

End Art Still replaced linebacker Gary Spani as the leading tackler on the team. Spani was still a close second despite missing the final game due to a neck injury. End Dave Lindstrom saw considerable action in place of the injured Mike Bell and was second in quarterback sacks.

Offensively, the Chiefs were hampered by the reduced contribution of running back Joe Delaney, the team's Most Valuable Player a year earlier when he was the only rookie starter in the Pro Bowl. Last year Delaney missed the Denver game and parts of three others due to injuries. In 1981 Delaney had five 100-yard games. He couldn't surpass 71 yards in any game last fall.

James Hadnot and Billy Jackson, dubbed the Chiefs' "blood in the mud" guys, took up some of the rushing slack.

On the plus side, wide receiver Carlos Carson caught 11 passes for 281 yards in the Chiefs' final three games. He could achieve a prominent position in the AFC in an offense slanted more toward the pass. The same is true of tight end Al Dixon, who had an outstanding season. Doubtless he would have set some personal records but for the strike-shortened schedule.

The Chiefs haven't made a postseason appearance in 11 years. But their new coach is ambitious, sharp, imaginative. And one more thing—

"I don't know what the word 'can't' means," Mackovic was once quoted as professing. He reads modern philosopher Edgar Cayce. On occasion Mackovic reportedly considered quitting coaching for a career in motivational research.

Well, the research resumes this fall in Kansas City, and one of the coaches Mackovic will be facing is Tom Landry, and one of the teams is the Cowboys. NFL history indicates that Landry can't say "can't," either.

In Texas, they pronounce it "cain't."

END

New Coach John Mackovic hopes running backs Billy Jackson (above) and Joe Delaney will be more productive in '83.

(All-Time Pros continued)

as much as his body. Most of all, he caught the ball when it counted. In 13 years he wound up with 631 receptions for 9,275 yards (a 14.7 average) and 68 touchdowns.

This brings us up to modern times and who else to serve as a tight end between these two elusive ball hawks than Kellen Winslow of the San Diego Chargers. We have seen many tight ends since the position became prominent after World War II and, more pointedly, starting in the 1960s. Nobody was tougher than Pete Pihos of the Philadelphia Eagles or Mike Ditka of the Chicago Bears. They were bruising blockers as well as sure-handed receivers. The prototype of the modern tight end was Baltimore's John Mackey, who showed everybody it was possible for a tight end to block, run short or run deep.

Mackey set a 20-year pattern for tight ends, a pattern that has been brought to its peak by Winslow, the human freight train, who is all but unstoppable before and after he catches the ball. He may be—if Dick Butkus will excuse the expression—the most imposing football player of all time.

Now to the running backs.

Jim Brown played nine years and holds most of the running records—including 12,312 yards for a career—but it was his unbelievable one-man efforts which set him apart from anyone else who ever carried a football for a living. They would wait for him. Oh, how they would wait for him. They would set up traps and ambushes and even seemed to dig holes in the ground for him. They did everything but set fire to the turf in an effort to bring him down.

Little worked.

Brown was almost unstoppable. He had that great body—perfectly proportioned—and that great speed, plus an uncanny ability to change directions. But others had great bodies and great speed and could turn on a penny piece. Brown had that extra element going for him. Call it drive. Call it desire. Call it determination. Call it whatever you will but he had it and it made him a champion. It made him the greatest runner of all time.

O.J. Simpson was not far behind. He played 11 seasons and gained 11,236 yards, and he did it as Brown did it, with everyone laying in the bushes for him. Simpson also had great body control, plus a way of changing directions without losing a single step. He ran in several gears, often low to the ground, and not only was it hard to stop him, sometimes it was hard to see him.

Now, to the key position of all: quarterback.

How do you choose the greatest quarterback of all time when there have been so many great quarterbacks? You try this and you'll have arguments for the rest of your life.

My pick is Johnny Unitas because he used to drive me out of my brain.

No player, in any sport, ever kept me more confused than this man who played so brilliantly for the Baltimore Colts.

He could do it all. He could throw short, medium or long; he could lob it, loft it or drill it between the defensive backs. He made everybody pay attention, too. When Johnny Unitas was in the huddle, you listened. He knew more than anyone around him—more of what it took to win. He knew how to get into the end zone.

What set him apart from all others is how he mixed up his plays. He was masterful in his play calling. He knew how to get the most out of every play in every possible situation.

A sidelight: I used to try to guess Unitas' plays. I divided them into six categories: run left, run right, run up the middle and pass right, pass left and pass up the middle. I called 71 of his plays one day and went 0-for-71.

These, then, are the skilled position players—the six most effective players of my time.

The full team follows, and it's OK if you want to call them *Athlon's* All-Time All-Pros:

OFFENSE

Tight end—Kellen Winslow (San Diego).

Linemen—Jim Parker (Baltimore), Forrest Gregg (Green Bay, Dallas), Jim Ringo (Green Bay, Philadelphia) and Ron Yary (Minnesota).

Center—Bulldog Turner (Chicago).

Quarterback—John Unitas (Baltimore, San Diego).

Running backs—Jim Brown (Cleveland) and O.J. Simpson (Buffalo, San Francisco).

Flankers—Don Hutson (Green Bay) and Raymond Berry (Baltimore).

DEFENSE

Linemen—Deacon Jones (Los Angeles, San Diego, Washington), Gino Marchetti (Dallas Texans, Baltimore), Bob Lilly (Dallas), Joe Greene (Pittsburgh).

Linebackers—Dick Butkus (Chicago), Joe Schmidt (Detroit) and Ted Hendricks (Baltimore, Green Bay, Oakland).

Defensive backs—Herb Adderley (Green Bay, Dallas), Larry Wilson (St. Louis), Paul Krause (Washington, Minnesota) and Cliff Harris (Dallas).

Not that this team would need a coach, but if they had to have somebody to run the drills, make the bedchecks and give them a spiritual talk at halftime, it would have to be Vince Lombardi. He created the most excellence in my time and was the most commanding personality I've ever known in any sport. To my knowledge, I was the only one in NFL history ever to get the best of him.

It happened at Super Bowl I, when he took the Green Bay Packers out of town, up the coast to Santa Barbara, so they would not be blinded by the bright lights of Los Angeles.

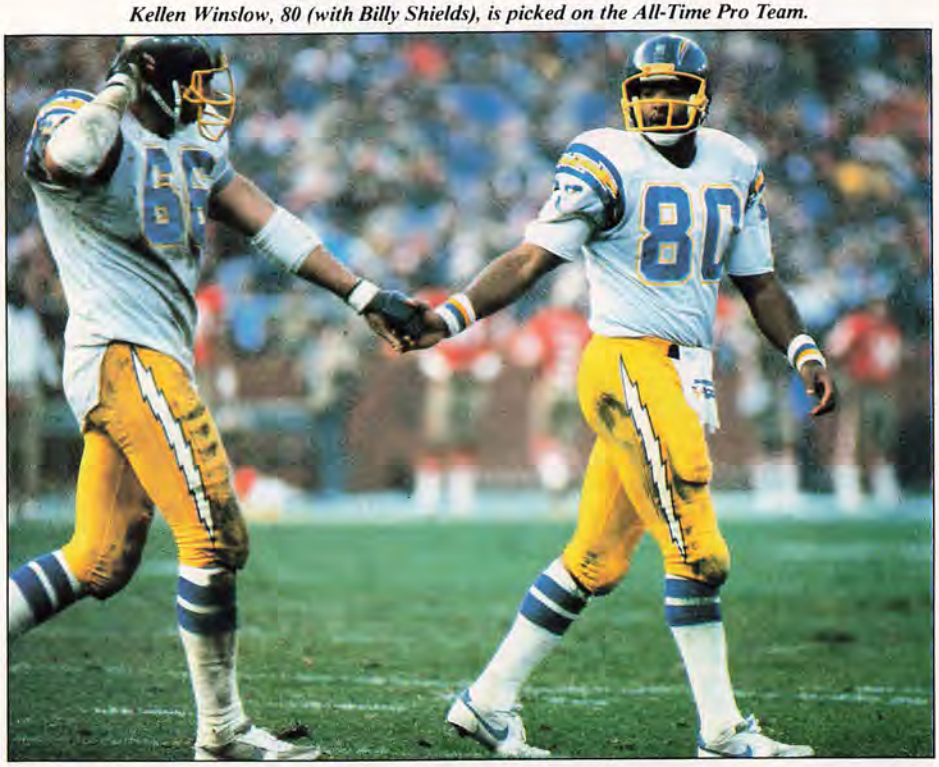
A few of the writers went up there one day to visit the Packers and, as it happened, we stopped for a few brews in the cocktail lounge at the Green Bay hotel.

We drank $78 worth and when the check came around, I grabbed it.

And signed: "Vince Lombardi."

END

Kellen Winslow, 80 (with Billy Shields), is picked on the All-Time Pro Team.



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BUFFALO

Jerry Butler says he's not a man who holds a grudge.

The Buffalo Bills didn't throw the football to him very often last year, but you will get no tantrum, no throw-it-to-me-or-trade-me talk from this gifted receiver.

"I've been in this game long enough to realize it doesn't do much good to run off at the mouth," says Butler. "But to tell you the truth, I'm kinda hoping they'll throw it my way a little more this season. If we're gonna lose, then at least let me get involved enough so they can blame me."

Last year was not a pleasant experience for the former No. 1 draft choice from Clemson.

For one thing, Butler was a holdout before the start of the season. It ended when the team agreed to restructure—but not renegotiate—the original contract he signed out of college.

"I just didn't get the chance to catch the ball because of the philosophy of the team. How can I make All-Pro if I don't get the football?"

Then, of course, there was the players' strike, which ruined the Bills' season. They had won their first two games and seemed headed then for a playoff spot. After the settlement, however, they lost five of their last seven games.

When the season ended, some players, including Joe Cribbs, who sought renegotiation of his contract and didn't return to work until the end of the strike, complained about the effect problems with the front office were having. Cribbs, drawing $120,000, wanted double that figure.

At length, after an unproductive meeting with Owner Ralph Wilson, Chuck Knox, who had brought respectability to Buffalo football, decided to take the head coaching job with Seattle.

"Maybe Chuck needed a change and maybe we needed a change," says Butler. "Maybe he felt he just didn't have the tools to work with here to get to the Super Bowl. I don't believe that myself, but maybe he felt he just couldn't do it under the present ownership.

"I think we've got good players here and with a few changes, we can win football games."

Knox was replaced by his quarterback coach, Kay Stephenson, who is well-liked by the players and has pledged to make the offense more wide-open.

Butler caught only 26 passes in 1982, two behind the Bills' leading receiver, Frank Lewis.

"In my mind, I'm among the best receivers in the NFL," says Butler, "but I just didn't get the chance to catch the ball because of the philosophy of the team. How can I make All-Pro if I don't get the football? They don't make you All-Pro for the way you run your patterns.

"I just hope we do open it up this year. I like being involved in the game. I don't want to be a decoy. I don't want to just block."

As a youngster in Ware Shoals, S.C., Butler went a long time before he ever caught a football. His mother wouldn't allow him to play.

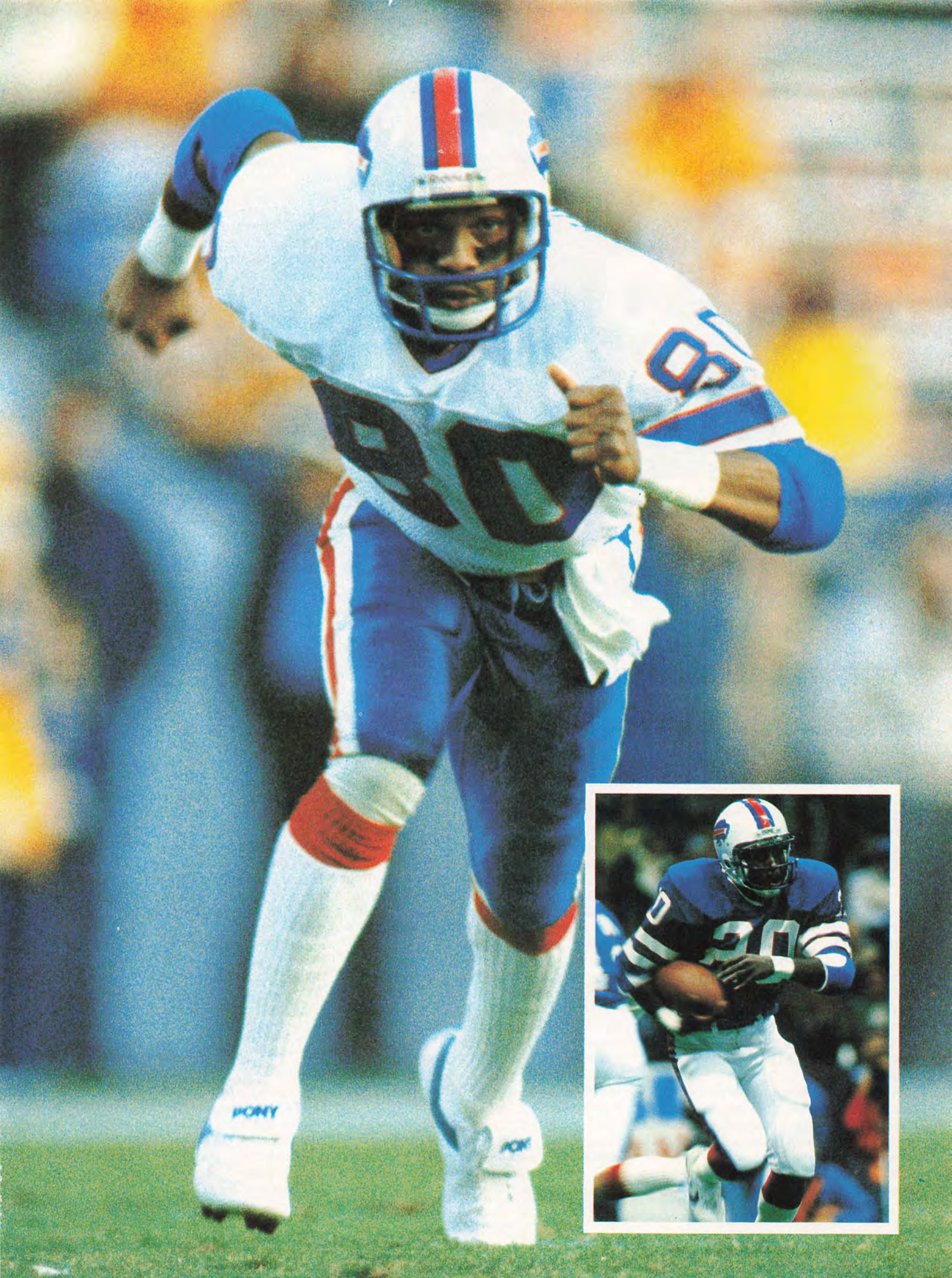
Butler had to content himself with backyard games. His only action on a football field came with the school band. He was a saxophone player and performed at halftime.

One day in gym class, his teacher, who happened to be the varsity football coach, asked Butler and several of his friends to try out for the team. He finally convinced his parents to let him play.

By the time Butler was ready to go to college, he was a star in football, baseball and track. His ability in track landed him a scholarship at Clemson. Of course, he also played football for the Tigers. By the time Butler left, he had established school career records for receptions and reception yardage that were later broken by his Buffalo teammate, second-year man Perry Tuttle.

(continued)

Wide receiver Jerry Butler (80) and running back Joe Cribbs are mainstays in the Bills' offense.


80
PONY

The Bills are always dangerous with Joe Ferguson poised to strike through the air.

(Buffalo continued)

Butler was taken on the first round of the 1979 draft. In only his fourth game as a professional, he caught 10 passes for 255 yards and four touchdowns. He was AFC Rookie of the Year in '79. In 1980 he was the Bills' top receiver with 57 receptions, two more than he had in 1981.

"Jerry's effort is always above normal," Jack Donaldson, the Bills' 1982 receivers coach, once said. "He has a certain pace about his running like a thoroughbred's. Long strides, low body-lean.

"Whatever he does on the field is always prominent. When he makes a play, everybody sees it. Part of that is due to his acceleration. Part of it is due to full extension to catch a ball that's a little overthrown or underthrown.

"He's extremely coachable, receptive to everything we give him. You say something to Jerry and he accepts the way it is. The next time you can count on him to do it the way you want it done."

Praise was fine and so was the talk that he has always been a pro's pro, a man who rarely blew his own horn or showboated in the end zone, but last summer Butler decided to take a stand over his contract.

Butler had signed a six-year contract that deferred 50 percent of his salary and signing bonus for 20 to 25 years. After being selected to the Pro Bowl in 1981, he went to Buffalo management and asked that his contract be renegotiated.

"They admitted that something should be changed," says Butler. "We started talking before last season, and I figured it would get done in training camp because they were taking care of other players' contracts. I was embarrassed by their offer. There is no way I'm going to go out and play for $80,000 a year. I know it sounds like a lot of money, but that's football and there are guys with less experience than me making more than twice what I'm making. I just wanted a contract that would put me among the top five receivers in the league."

The Bills eventually restructured the contract so that Butler says, "I'm kinda satisfied. About the best thing I can say is that I played last year. They did some things but it just wasn't that great. But I'll live with it and it won't affect my performance on the field, I can promise you that."

What could affect his contribution will be the way Stephenson designs the offense. Last year, the Bills were an unusually conservative team, particularly late in the season. Of course, there was a reason for that, what with a running back named Cribbs on the squad.

With Cribbs, the Bills led the NFL in rushing in 1982. After missing the first two games in his contract dispute, Cribbs wound up with 633 yards on 134 carries, fifth-best in the AFC.

Cribbs finished with three 100-yard games in his last four starts. His 63-yard run against the Dolphins late in the season was the longest in the AFC and of his career.

Buffalo has other excellent weapons on offense, chief among them being quarterback Joe Ferguson—at least, the prestrike Joe Ferguson. After the teams returned from eight weeks off, Ferguson threw 13 interceptions and only one touchdown pass in the last seven games.

"I think there's talent in Buffalo. We've just got to forget the past and concentrate on winning."

Stephenson says Ferguson will be his quarterback, and why not. He has started 87 straight games for Buffalo and is approaching the 25,000-yard career passing mark. He owns a half dozen team passing records. With Ferguson tossing about 20 touchdown passes and keeping interceptions down, the Bills should be a dangerous team.

They are already potent on defense. They finished second in the NFL in total defense, giving up just 22 yards more than league-leading Miami. Their pass defense was second in the NFL. They set three team records.

Two defensive linemen, All-Pro nosetackle Fred Smerlas and end Ben Williams, were selected to play in the Pro Bowl, and linebacker Eugene Marve, pressed into service when Shane Nelson was lost early in the year with a knee injury, wound up making all-rookie teams.

The secondary, with veteran free safety Bill Simpson leading the team in tackles, had a decent year, and the kicking game was much improved, thanks mostly to Mike Mosley. He averaged 27 yards per kickoff return to lead the NFL.

The Bills must improve on their punting this year, however. Third-year man Greg Cater finished next to last in the AFC with a 37.9-yard average. Veteran Efren Herrera was signed as a free agent early in the season and made eight of 14 field-goal attempts.

The Bills will face heavy competition. Their schedule includes games against six playoff teams.

"It's going to be tough," says Butler, "especially if people keep dwelling on last year. We weren't the same team after the strike. It seemed like everyone was pointing fingers—the players, the fans, the media. I think there's talent in Buffalo. We've just got to forget the past and concentrate on winning."

END

(Shula continued)

a University of Miami football program widely given up for dead. "Having observed him makes me know how to work a little harder, and to give up on things a little more slowly. Shula is the epitome of a winner."

Still, he is short of flawless.

Shula spent big money to bring running back Delvin Williams from San Francisco in 1978, but after one season with the Dolphins the magic evaporated. He spent a No. 1 draft pick on Darryl Carlton, out of the University of Tampa, and the 280-pound offensive tackle went nowhere.

Shula gave up on defensive back Neal Colzie, who fled across Florida to the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and, last season, was voted the most valuable player on a team that made the playoffs.

But, for every criticism, there is an armload of praise for Shula. In general, he takes pride in his skill at motivating players according to their personalities. "There are guys I ride unmercifully," he says. "Some of them aren't natural hitters but are extremely intelligent and have to be fired up a certain way. Then, you've always got players who are very talented but naturally lazy."

There have been many routes, good and bad, many pitstops and a few potholes on what has mainly been a glorious trip since Shula was born Jan. 4, 1930, in Grand River, Ohio. He spent some tough growing-up years in nearby Painesville. When he finished high school, no college offered an athletic scholarship to the gritty running back. Finally, Coach Herb Eisele at John Carroll University, a Jesuit school in Cleveland, came up with a deal that would cover Shula's tuition.

Shula's most memorable collegiate day came in 1950, at a time when the Cleveland Browns and a brilliant coach, Paul Brown, were monopolizing headlines in the town. The Blue Streaks were playing Syracuse, an opponent that expected to romp. The student newspaper at Syracuse ran a banner headline asking, "Who is John Carroll?" The Streaks needed no further motivation. Shula ran for 125 yards and John Carroll overturned the Orangemen 21-16. That day, the Browns were not atop the sports pages in Cleveland.

But, in the press box at that Syracuse-John Carroll game were many of the coaches from Cleveland's championship pro team. They had come to assess the boys in orange, but it was the Blue Streaks who caught their collective eye. Especially that kid Shula. Paul Brown signed him to a one-year contract for $5,000, the beginning of Shula's seven-year pro playing career as a defensive back with Cleveland, Baltimore and Washington.

At a tender NFL age, Shula knew he was born to coach. He began in college football, at Virginia in 1958 and the following season under Blanton Collier at Kentucky. The Detroit Lions brough him back to the NFL as defensive coordinator in 1960. Three years later, he was head coach in Baltimore. The Colts were soon winning division championships and, in 1968, danced into Super Bowl III with a 15-1 record. Baltimore was a 17-point favorite over the New York Jets in what became one of the most famous of all games. Joe Namath, the Jets' quarterback, "guaranteed" an upset and it happened 16-7 to the astonishment of almost everybody.

Shula is not above listening to a well-meant suggestion from a veteran like quarterback Don Strock.

Super Bowl III is a downbeat moment Shula will not be allowed to forget. It is his eternal Waterloo, his Little Big Horn. Colts Owner Carroll Rosenbloom couldn't get over the stinging defeat, which ironically took place in the Orange Bowl stadium where Shula was later to become king.

Shula jumped to Miami in 1970. Immediately, he transformed the young Dolphin franchise into a shouting success. But, there too, he was to have differences with the man who owned the team.

If there's to be a next time, another town and another franchise, Shula wants to have both hands on the controls. He wants to be beholden to no one. Then again, maybe the strange marriage of Robbie and Shula will somehow carry on. Maybe Robbie, who realizes full well the value of his coach, will offer to pay $700,000 a year this time. Maybe he'll make sure Shula becomes so wealthy that the great coach will forget wanting "an Al Davis kind of situation."

He could be worth it.

END

(New York Giants continued)

end zone one way or another," he says. "I want a quarterback who will stay under control so that he can perform."

Certainly, he has an impressive list of candidates to choose from. Veteran Phil Simms was No. 1 going into last season but suffered a knee injury in the preseason and was forced to miss the entire campaign. In his place, Scott Brunner came on to throw for 2,017 yards, hitting on 54 percent of his attempts. He had 10 touchdown passes but also gave up nine interceptions.

Those interceptions, however, seldom ruffled his composure, a fact not lost on Parcells. "Scott's greatest resource is his temperament. He's never too high and never too low, even if he has a bad game.

"On the other hand, Phil has been working hard to rehabilitate the knee and deserves the opportunity to quarterback the Giants. He's a quality performer."

Then there's Jeff Rutledge, acquired from the Rams. "Physically," says Parcells, "he may not impress you, but I think there's something there. When he did get to play for the Rams, he was successful. He's got to figure in the fight."

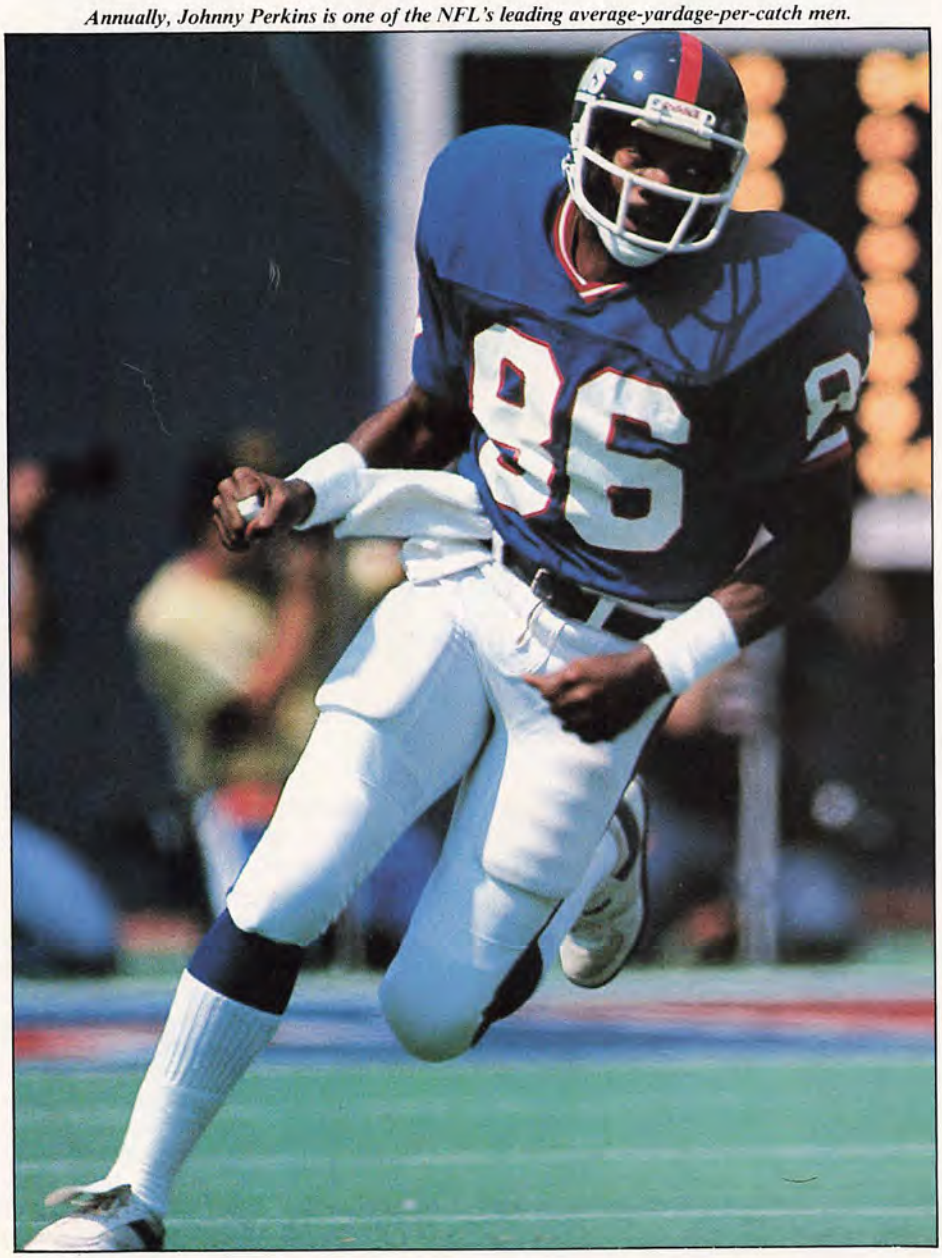
The only commitment Parcells will make is that he'll not go with a dual system. He'll pick a starter and stick with him once the season has begun.

The most positive addition to the offense in recent years has been the return of a running game, fueled by rookie Butch Woolfolk's contribution and the return of Rob Carpenter.

Providing a long-absent breakaway threat, Woolfolk didn't get enough help from the line to show his full measure of ability last season but still managed 439 yards on 112 carries. He also contributed to the passing attack, catching 23 for 224 yards, including a 40-yarder for a touchdown. Carpenter gives the New York attack a one-two punch again.

For the offense to work effectively, however, the line will have to improve over last year when Brunner suffered 31 sacks.

Annually, Johnny Perkins is one of the NFL's leading average-yardage-per-catch men.



Johnny Perkins leads the wide receivers. Tight end Tom Mullady is coming off a fine season. Because of the pressure he was forced to deal with, Brunner threw to Mullady often enough to allow him to lead Giant receivers with 27 catches. Perkins was just one reception behind and was the big yardage man, averaging 16.5 yards per catch. Working at the other wide receiver spot will be Earnest Gray, another deep threat who caught 25 for a 17-yard average. Backup wide man John Mistler lends depth, having caught 18 for 191 yards. And Floyd Eddings, who saw limited action a year ago, could make a more noticeable contribution.

For the offense to work effectively, however, the line will have to improve over last year when Brunner suffered 31 sacks.

The depth chart shows the same starters that ended the season last year, but Parcells has indicated some shake-ups are possible if the unit does not show well collectively in training camp. Brad Benson and Gordon King will open at the tackles with Billy Ard and J. T. Turner at guards. Rich Umphrey, a starter as a rookie last year, will return at center an improved player. Depth is a problem, however, with Rich Baldinger, the only other veteran tackle on board, and Ernie Hughes available at guard.

The kicking game is no worry with Pro Bowl punter Dave Jennings returning after averaging 42.8 per kick and Joe Danelo, the team's leading scorer, handling field goal and extra point duties. Danny Pittman performed well on kickoff returns, averaging 23.4 yards per return, while Leon Bright handled punt runbacks, averaging 8.8 yards.

Which is to say the Giants, having made marked advancement in the past couple of years, aren't far away from being a legitimate title threat. Improvement in the offensive line, in fact, would seem to be the only major barricade.

END

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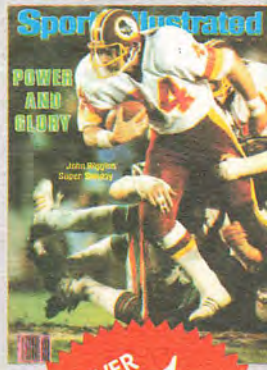

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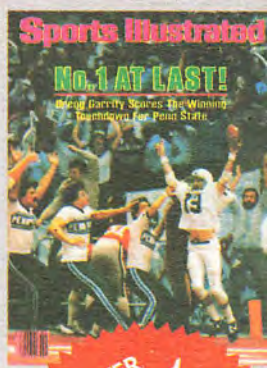

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